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MEMOIRS

OF THE

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MEMOIRS
OF THE
DUTCH TRADE
In all the
STATES, EMPIRES,
AND
KINGDOMS in the WORLD.

SHEWING

Its first Rise and amazing Progress: After what Manner the DUTCH manage and carry on their Commerce; their vast Dominions and Government in the *Indies*, and by what Means they have made themselves Masters of all the Trade of EUROPE.

AS ALSO

What Goods and Merchandize are proper for Maritime Traffick, whence they are to be had, and what Gain and Profit they produce.

A TREATISE very neeceſſary for every ENGLISHMAN.

Tranſlated from the French, *now Printed at* Amſterdam.

By Mr. SAMBER.

The Second Edition.

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THE AUTHOR's PREFACE.

SOME Persons of Honour and Distinction, whom I ought by no means to disoblige, having engaged me to write something upon Trade, which might give them a general Idea of it as it regards Politicks: I believed nothing would better answer that End, than to give them a true Notion of the Trade of the *Dutch*, which has diffused it self over all Parts of the habitable World, and to shew that it is on Account of Trade that their Republick has such a considerable Rank amongst the States of *Europe*.

This was what moved me to undertake this small Treatise; and indeed I write the more willingly on this Subject of Commerce, because there is nothing, in my Judgment, seems to be so little understood in *France*, especially by Persons in publick Employments and high Posts, either in the Courts of Judicature, the

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Cabinet, or the Treaſury. However, it is certain, Commerce is of ſo great Importance, that I make no Difficulty to aver, that according to the preſent Conduct of the ſeveral States of *Europe*, there are very few things in Government which deſerve more our Attention than this Article of Commerce.

To be convinced of this Truth, we have nothing elſe to do, but conſider the Difference there is between thoſe Countries where Trade flouriſhes, and thoſe Countries who have none. If we will only remember, that *England* and *Holland*, which (by Reaſon of their Situation) make ſo great a Figure in the Affairs of *Europe*, regulate their principal Intereſt always with an Eye to their Commerce; and this was the principal Motive which cauſed the laſt Wars; (that is, the Security of their Trade,) we ſhall be entirely ſatisfied, that Commerce ought to have no mean Place in modern Politicks.

Beſides theſe Conſiderations (which are particular ones in relation to the preſent State of *Europe*) there are yet others more general, which ought no leſs to excite all Princes and their Miniſters, and all thoſe who have any Share in Government, to know thoroughly the Nature of Commerce, and the Maxims which are neceſſary to its being well carried on and managed; ſince (as *Bocalin* very well obſerves) Agriculture and Commerce are the

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Breasts which suckle and nourish the State; Truths which ought to be engraven in Letters of Gold in all the Apartments of Kings, Princes and Statesmen, to induce them to consider Tradesmen and Merchants according to their Merits. To these I shall add, that a great State cannot flourish, or indeed be at Peace, if it has not a great Trade; for 'tis only by means of Trade it can draw to its self Riches and Plenty, without which it can undertake nothing advantageous, either to aid and assist its Allies, or extend its Limits. The great *Gustavus Adolphus* was so well convinc'd of this Truth, that tho' War was his predominant Passion, yet he very seriously apply'd himself to make Trade flourish in his Dominions, and was used to say, *That to put his Soldiers Valour to the Proof, he was often obliged to have recourse to his Merchants.* My Lord *Bacon*, who was one of the greatest Politicians of his time, look'd upon Merchants to be so necessary, that he compared them in the State, to the Blood in a Man's Body, *Which if it did not flourish*, says he, *a Man may possibly have some of his Limbs very strong, but he would be sure to have empty Veins and a lean Habit of Body. Qui nisi flouruerit, potest quidem aliquos Artus habere Robustos, sed Venas vacuas & Habitum Corporis macrum.* It may be proved from Examples almost as old as the World, that States

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flouriſh in Proportion to Commerce; as we may gather from what the Holy Scriptures teach us, in relation to the *Tyrians* and *Sidonians*: But we need not run ſo far back into Antiquity for Examples; we need only conſider the ſurprizing Changes which Trade has cauſed in our Days (if I may ſo ſay) amongſt our Neighbours.

The Power of *England* was once ſo inconſiderable, before the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, according to *Cambden*'s Obſervation, that her Predeceſſors (nay even her own Father) when they had a mind to put a Fleet to Sea, were obliged to hire Ships from *Hamburgh*, *Lubeck*, *Dantzick*, *Genoa* and *Venice*: But after the *Engliſh*, by the Care of that able Princeſs, apply'd themſelves to Traffick, and by reaſon of the great Protection ſhe gave to Merchants, it flouriſhed in *Muſcovy*, in all the Dominions of the Grand Seignior, upon the Coaſts of *Africa*, the *Eaſt* (or rather the *Weſt*) *Indies*, and in almoſt all other Parts of the World; that Queen ſoon became capable of maintaining her ſelf a great Naval Force, which at laſt became the Terror of the Ocean and the Narrow Seas, which made that Nation go and attack, more than once, the Power of *Philip* the Second, not only in the New World, but even on the very Coaſts of *Spain*. In ſhort, that powerful Queen followed ſo well thoſe Maxims of ſecuring and encreaſing the

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the Commerce of all her Subjects, and their Traffick on the footing of her Naval Force, that she laid those solid Foundations for the encrease of Commerce and Maritime Power of *England*, two things to which that Nation owes to this Day all its Strength and Grandeur.

But nothing can come up to what the *Dutch* have done by Commerce; and it will ever be a Subject of Astonishment and Wonder, that a handful of Merchants, that fled into a little Country which produced scarce enough to subsist its new Inhabitants, should beat down the exorbitant Power of the *Spanish* Monarchy, and make that King sue for Peace; that they should lay the Foundation of so mighty a Republick, which we see at present in some manner to hold the Balance between all the other Powers of *Europe*; but what is most wonderful, and what ought most to surprize us, is, that the Wars never interrupted their Trade, and that it was in the very heat of War that they laid the Foundations of that of the *East-Indies* and the Coasts of *Africa*; and that they should trade with their Enemies, the *Spaniards*, in spite of all the Precautions they took to the contrary, which very much contributed to the Support of the War.

The States General of the *United Provinces*, seeing the Industry of these Merchants was of so great Service to the Republick, pro-

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tected and favoured them in every thing; and it may be truly said, that without their Assistance they would never have been able to put so glorious an End to the War as they did. We see by this what Advantage Commerce is to a State, when it is regulated with Prudence, and by able Merchants, who have all Protection, and no Constraint.

But what need we go out of *France* for Examples, to shew how important Commerce is to a Nation; We need only consider the great Things that have been done under the glorious Reign of our Great Monarch, and the almost infinite Sums which have been disbursed, as well to support the War against all the Powers of *Europe* for above 30 Years, as during the Peace. Could one ever have imagined this could have been done, without that prodigious Quantity of Money, which Trade, especially that with *Spain*, brought into *France*? For we have no Mines to supply us. What then would have been the Consequence, had Commerce been protected and encouraged in *France* as it ought to have been? I doubt not but in such Case we might have said of *France*, what the Holy Scripture said of *Jerusalem*, that *in the Days of* Solomon *Gold and Silver were as common as Stones:* If *England*, by means of the Woollen Manufactures, and by the vent of her Tin, Lead, and Sea-Coal, has amassed such Riches, what might one not have

believed

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believed *France* would have gained; which, beſides her Manufactures of Wool, Silk, Linnen, Hats, Paper, and many other Things, which are eagerly ſought after by all the World, ſupplies other Countries with Wines, Brandies, Wheat, Salt, Oil, and Fruits of all ſorts, for immenſe Sums. This Abundance and great Plenty of our Merchandize, ſo neceſſary and uſeful to our Neighbours, made my Lord *Bellaſis* ſay, *That if God ſhould one Day make the* Turks *know what they could do at Sea, and the* French *how far they might extend their Commerce, all* Europe *would ſoon fall, a Conqueſt to thoſe Powers.*

I ſhall only give one Inſtance more, to ſhew how nothing but Commerce can enrich a Kingdom; let us therefore turn our Eyes to *Spain*, and it is certain, that there is no Nation in the World has ſo little Gold and Silver as the *Spaniards*, tho' thoſe two Metals grow in ſuch prodigious Quantities in their Dominions; other Nations, notwithſtanding, are better provided therewith, on account of the great Vent their Commodities have in *Spain*, and the dependent Kingdoms, which have Occaſion for them; and, in ſhort, that great Monarchy has fallen to Decay, purely for having neglected Commerce, and eſtabliſhing ſeveral Manufactures in Dominions of ſo vaſt and large extent. It was this Negligence which was one of the principal Springs of

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the Riches of *France*; and while *France* traded with *Spain*, she never wanted Gold or Silver, not even during those long and difficult Wars. Let us only look back and consider what Condition *France* was in by the *Pyrenean* Treaty, notwithstanding a long War of above twenty five Years, and all those she has since sustained, even to our Days. It is much to be wished, we would open our Eyes soon enough, and take Notice of a Matter of so much Importance, and so necessary as Commerce, and endeavour to know how to take such Measures as may bring to a good Issue that, on which, in some manner, depends the Happiness of all his Majesty's Subjects, and the Grandeur of the Nation.

We *Frenchmen* have been reproached (and perhaps not without some reason) that the Genius of our Nation was not proper for a foreign Commerce, being quickly weary of all Undertakings that require a solid and continued Application. But without deciding this Matter, I shall content my self to say, that there have been, and yet are in *France*, Persons of very good Abilities and Experience, necessary for carrying on a vast Trade: Out of several, I shall only mention *Jaques Couer*, Superintendent of the Finances, or (in the Language of those Times) Moneyer to King *Charles* the Seventh. This Man, who was born at *Bourges*, being entirely addicted to Foreign

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Foreign Trade, in a time when ſcarce any one meddled with it in *France*, got prodigious Wealth, which he employ'd to the beſt Advantage in the Service of the King his Maſter, and the Support of the State. *Matthew Coucy* an Hiſtorian, his Contemporary, ſpeaks of him after this manner: 'The King *(ſays he)* had 'in his Kingdom a Man of mean Extraction, 'whoſe Name was *Jaques Couer*, who by 'his Senſe, Vigilance, and good Conduct, ſo 'ordered it, as to undertake trading in Com-'modities of the higheſt Value, which he ſtill 'continued to do, notwithſtanding his being 'made Moneyer to King *Charles*, in which 'Office he continued a long while in great 'Power and Proſperity: He had under him 'many Clerks and Factors, who had the Care 'of theſe Commodities, to diſtribute them 'thro' all Chriſtian States and Kingdoms. He 'had at Sea a great many large Veſſels, main-'tained at his own Expence and Charge, 'which traded to the *Levant*, *Egypt* and '*Barbary*, to freight themſelves with all ſorts 'of rich and fine Commodities and Merchan-'dize, by Leave of the Sultan and Turks, 'paying them ſome little Duty as an Acknow-'ledgment. He cauſed to be brought from 'thoſe Countries, Gold and Silver Stuffs, Silks 'of all Sorts and Colours, Furs for Men and 'Women of ſeveral Kinds; as Martins and 'Sables, *&c.* and other excellent Curioſities,

'which

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'which Goods he ſold by his Commiſſaries 'and Factors at the *Hotel Royalle*, in all the 'principal Cities of the Kingdom, and in fo- 'reign Courts, where the People, ſurprized 'with Admiration, ſoon bought them up at a 'good Price. He had at leaſt three or four 'Hundred Commiſſaries or Factors at his 'Command, and gained himſelf more in one 'Year, than all the Merchants of the King- 'dom. He was in Poſſeſſion of the Office 'of Superintendant of the Finances, when 'King *Charles* undertook the Conqueſt of '*Normandy* in the Year 1449; of which 'Conqueſt this famous Merchant was the 'chief Cauſe; for he was the firſt that en- 'couraged the King to that great Underta- 'king, and furniſhed him with an Army, by 'offering him ſeveral Milions, which was 'executed after the Manner as the King beſt 'liked, and for which he was highly applau- 'ded and complimented by all the Princes 'and Lords of the Court; and yet for all 'that Expence, his Wealth was almoſt inva- 'luable.

Heaven could once have given us, and yet might have given us another *Jaquez Couer*, and then we ſhould have entertained greater Hopes than ever to bring the Trade of *France* to its higheſt Pitch, and make our Nation the moſt flouriſhing in the World. The Merchants of *France*, to accompliſh this, want only

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only an experienced Leader; a Perſon of much Knowledge, one that has a great Foreſight, an enterprizing Genius, and continual Application and Perſeverance; a Perſon of great Credit and Power, that he may protect thoſe who traffick under him, and are his Commiſſioners, in whatever Place of the World.

It was by ſuch Means as theſe, that the *Dutch* have carried Commerce to the higheſt Degree, as may be ſeen in the following Memoirs, which I deſire thoſe who will give themſelves the trouble to read, would not think to be the ſimple Speculation of a Man of Letters, but the true Sentiments of the moſt able Merchants of *Holland*, whom one ought ever to look upon as the true Oracles of Commerce; it was amongſt them chiefly that I learned what I know of this rich and important Subject; and I ſeriouſly declare, that after having ſeen the Greatneſs of their Trade, and the conſiderable Influence that this famous Republick has had for many Years paſt in all the Affairs of *Europe*, I was entirely convinc'd, that Commerce is one of the principal Parts of Policy, which made me reſolved to ſtudy very ſeriouſly an Affair, to which before I apply'd my ſelf out of pure Curioſity: In ſhort, I reſolved to be inſtructed as much as poſſible, not only in the Trade of *Holland*, but alſo in that of the *Engliſh*, *Portugueze* and other Nations; and I was the more invited to this, becauſe it

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is very visible that we have failed very much in our Projects of Commerce, in not well knowing and considering the Nature of that of our Neighbours; several Voyages, that I have happily made to several Parts of *Europe*, have much contributed to make me know their way of Trade, having had the Happiness to converse with Persons of the greatest Ability where I have been. Besides, I have spared no Pains or Cost to have good Memoirs, and the following Treatise will be a sufficient Proof of what I say.

These various and rare Truths, which I have with much Pains and Expence acquired the Knowledge of, gave me Courage to put them into Writing, and treat of a Subject so little understood. If I find these Memoirs are well received, I may be induced to make considerable Additions, and present the World with others relating to the Commerce of other Nations.

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MEMOIRS

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MEMOIRS
OF THE
DUTCH TRADE
In all Parts of the WORLD.

CHAP. I.

What Condition the Trade of Europe *was in from the Year* 1000, *to the End of the last Century, that it is almoſt entirely managed, and carried on by the* Dutch.

THE preſent Trade of this powerful Republick being formed out of *that* of many Nations, it will not be improper briefly to obſerve the ſeveral Changes the Trade or Commerce of *Europe* underwent, and on what Footing it ſtood, at the time the *Dutch* began to form themſelves into a Common-Wealth.

It is about Six Hundred Years ago, that Trade, which was almoſt ruined by thoſe continual

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tinual Wars that troubled *Europe*, began to revive and flouriſh under the *Italians* and *Germans*. The former of theſe, after the Ruine of the *Roman* Empire, went into the *Levant* for Spices, Druggs, Silks, and all the other valuable Commodities thoſe Eaſtern Climes produced, to diſpoſe of, and fell them again in all Parts of *Europe*. *Alexandria*, and ſome other Ports of *Syria*, were the Places where this Trade was principally carried on, and which were ſupplied from time to time, with all theſe Sorts of Commodities, by the *Aſiaticks*, both by Land and Sea, and by the *Perſians* and *Arabians*, by means of the Red Sea; and this was the conſtant Practice both of *Greeks* and *Romans*, eſpecially ſince the Reign of *Ptolomy* ſurnamed *Philadelphus*, as I have elſewhere dicourſed of more at large, in my Treatiſe *Of the Commerce of the Ancients*.

The *Italians* having added to their *Levant* Trade the Manufactures of Silk which the People of *Europe* were very fond of, made ſuch conſiderable Progreſs therein, as to lay up immenſe Riches, by means of which they formed thoſe powerful Republicks, ſome of which ſubſiſt to this very Day, with great Splendour and Magnificence, the happy Effects of their ancient, and long eſtabliſhed Commerce.

The *Italian* Trade however, properly ſpeaking, was only what remained of that which the *Romans* formerly drove with *Aſia*, but that of

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of *Germany* owed its Rise entirely to the *Italians*.

Towards the End of the twelfth Century, the Towns of *Germany* situated on the *Baltick* Sea, and those great Rivers that run into it, were famous for their trading all over the neighbouring Provinces; but as this Trade was often disturbed by Pirates, and those frequent Wars that at that time troubled the North, they united themselves together for their mutual Defence, to secure and protect their Commerce, from what might disturb, or annoy it for the future. These Towns thus united, and which increased to about 72, or thereabouts, were called *Hanse Towns*, from the *German* Word *Amsee*, or *Ansee*, which signifies *upon the Sea*, and their Inhabitants called *Osterlins*, that is, *Easterlings*, Names afterwards very well known all over *Europe*; and these Towns for a long while commanded all the Trade and Navigation of the North, which at that time were almost entirely unknown to the other People of *Europe*, except the *Italians*. These things made them so powerful, that for a long time they were the sole Arbiters of Peace and War, all over the North. But this Trade, which was for two Centuries successively the most flourishing that ever was, began to decay about the Year 1500, on Account of their falling out with one another, and of which mutual Divisions the *English* and *Dutch* made such considerable

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Advantage (especially the latter) that it fell almost entirely into their Hands, and has continued so ever since, notwithstanding all the vigorous Efforts these *Hanse* Towns have made from time to time, to retrieve it. So true it is, that when Commerce has once changed its Course, it is the most difficult thing in the World to bring it back again.

By this one may see the State and Condi- of the Trade of *Europe*, during the last Age, and how it was divided between the *Italians* and *Germans*. But the *Portugueze*, towards the End of the Fifteenth Century, having found out a new Passage to the *East-Indies*, by the *Cape of Good Hope*, all the Trade which the *Venetians* drove to the *East-Indies* for Spices, and other Commodities of the East, soon fell into their Hands; so that *Lisbon* became the chief Magazine, or Store-House, for these Goods, whence the rest of all *Europe* might be conveniently furnished and supplyed. Soon after the *Portugueze* made the Discovery of the *East Indies*, *Cadiz* and *Seville* were full of all the rich and valuable Commodities the new World (or *America*) produced. Gold and Silver growing more common in *Europe*, and Navigation every Day coming to a greater Perfection, Trade grew more lively and flourishing, and from that time all Nations in *Europe* strove to trade with the *Portugueze* and

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and *Spaniards*, whom they looked upon as the sole Masters of Gold and Silver.

The Commodities of the North were found of extream Necessity to the People of *Europe*, who lived towards the South; for besides Wheat and other Grain, they had from thence other Commodities, as Materials proper for building Ships, Navigation, and the like; and the People of the North, on the other Hand, stood as much in need of the Commodities of the South, as Wine, Salt, Oil, &c. But then the Voyage from the *Baltick* to the *Mediterranean*, being very long, and full of Difficulties, (which yet have since been found not to be insuperable) the advantageous and happy Situation of the Ports of *Flanders* between the North and the South; the Manufacturies of Linnen and Woollen Cloth, which flourished in those Parts since the tenth Century, together with the free Fairs of these Towns, tempted the Merchants both of the North and South to set up their Store-Houses, or Magazines for Goods, at *Bruges*, and afterwards at *Antwerp*, by means of which the Exchange of Goods with each other, was carried on with greater Ease and Conveniency, and Half the Expence and Trouble of the Voyage entirely saved,

Flanders such convenient Situation between the North & South parts of Europe as to become the Storehouse of the Northern and Bruges &c. were so particularly

The great Trade and Manufactures of the Low Countries made *Antwerp* indisputably the most considerable Town in the World for Wealth

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Wealth and Commerce: But as the Trade of *Amſterdam* is entirely owing to the Ruin of *Antwerp*, it will not be amiſs to look a little farther back, the better to diſcover the true Origin of the Commerce and Manufactures of the Low Countries, which were once ſo famous throughout the whole World.

Cæſar obſerves in his Commentaries, that the People of the Low Countries were very laborious and induſtrious, both for Invention and Imitation. His Words are, *Eſt ſumma genus ſolertiæ, atque ad ad omnia imitanda quæ a quoquo traduntur aptiſſimum.* Lib. 7. Theſe People always were, and are to this very Day, the ſame as they were in *Cæſar*'s time; and it muſt be own'd, that they have brought the Art of Weaving to its higheſt Perfection, not to mention ſeveral others for which the World is indebted to them. It is ſaid the *Flemings* were the firſt of the Northern People that made all Sorts of Woollen and Linnen Cloths, their Country yielding the fineſt Flax in the World, and *England* producing the moſt excellent and beſt of Wooll. *Baldwin* ſurnamed the *Young*, Count of *Flanders*, contributed very much to the Advancement of his Subjects Commerce, by ſetting up about the Year 960, free Fairs in ſeveral Towns of his Dominions, which drew thither vaſt Numbers from the neighbouring Provinces, who came to furniſh themſelves with

The Flemings advantaged by Trade in 960

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with these Commodities, and indeed they dealt for vast Quantities, there being no Duty, or Custom to be paid for any Goods exported thence. This Woollen and Linnen Trade, which at first began in *France* and *Germany*, very much encreased for three Centuries; during all which time nothing was more flourishing than the Trade of *Flanders*.

The Successors of *Baldwin* having laid several Duties, or Customs, on these free Fairs, and the *Flemish* Manufactures, to raise Money in order to defray the Expences they were at, in several Wars with *France*, was the real Cause that the Woollen and Linnen Cloth-Workers, whose Numbers were almost infinite, made several cruel Insurrections in *Ghent*, in the Year 1301. And others of these Workmen, who lived in the open Country, finding but little Shelter there in War time, went away in great Numbers to *Tillemont* and *Louvain*, from whence they dispersed afterwards into several Parts of *Brabant*.

The Dukes of *Brabant*, one would have imagined, might have taken Warning by the ill-Conduct of the *Flemings*, which was attended with so many Inconveniencies; but on the contrary, they took the very same Measures, and in their Turn, laid several Duties upon Manufactures, which likewise caused Insurrections in several Places of *Brabant*, particularly at *Louvain*, where the Cloth-Workers having

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having killed several Magistrates, to escape unpunished, fled some of them into *England*, and others into *Holland*. Those who got into *England*, gave the *English* the first Insight into Cloth Making, and shewed them how to work their own Wooll, to the great Detriment of the Trade of the Low Countries; for it is certain, that to the Year 1404, and even since the *English* sold their Wooll to the *Flemings*, and took their Cloths in Payment.

Not only the Cloth-Workers of *Brabant* went into *Holland*, but a great many from *Flanders* did the same, and settled chiefly at *Leyden*, where that Art of Cloth-Working hath continued ever since, to shine out in its full Lustre.

Thus we plainly see, how laying on too high Duties was what removed good Part of the Manufacturies of *Flanders* into *Brabant*, and from that Province into those beyond the *Maese*, and into *England*, where they have raised the Woollen Manufacture to the highest Degree of Perfection it can possibly admit of.

The *English* and *Dutch* being very desirous to keep to themselves these important and valuable Manufacturies, took particular Care not to burden them with top heavy Customs, or Taxes. We shall explain in another Place the Reason of this their wise Policy and Conduct.

About

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About the Year 1400, the Art of Salting, or Pickling of Herrings, was found out by a *Fleming* of *Pierulem*, which much encouraged this Sort of Fiſhery, as being of very great Advantage, and together with the Manufactures, made Navigation flouriſh in that large Province, and of Conſequence very much encreaſed their Trade and Commerce. The Towns of *Sluice* and *Bruges* were the two chief Places where the *Flemings* at that Time drove on the Herring-Trade with Foreigners. The former of which having a fine Harbour, both for Largeneſs of Extent, and ſafe Riding, capable of containing 500 Ships, was continually full of Ships from different Nations that traded there as well as at *Bruges*; for, in Reality, *Sluice* is no more than the Port of *Bruges*, which Towns have a Communication with each other, by means of a large Canal. *Bruges* is at preſent, one of the largeſt Towns in *Flanders*, but has loſt much of its Splendour, ſince the Year 1487; for at that Time, there was ſcarce a Nation in *Europe*, how inconſiderable ſoever, that had not their proper Magazine, or Store-Houſe, and a Company eſtabliſhed there for Trade; as the *Engliſh*, *French*, *Scotch*, *Caſtilian*, and *Portugueze*, the Companies of *Arragon*, *Catalonia*, *Biſcay*, *Venice*, *Florence*, *Genoa*, *Lucca*, *Milan*, *Germany*, *Denmark*, *Sweden*, and all the Hanſe Towns. Theſe laſt, about the

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the Year 1262, ſet up in that Town their greateſt Store-Houſe, which gave a conſiderable Encreaſe to Trade. It was to this Place that the ſeveral Nations juſt now mentioned imported the Commodities of their reſpective Countries, which they exchanged with each other, or for *Flanders* Linnen.

This mighty Trade of *Bruges* drew thither Workmen of all Sorts, which made it extremely rich and famous. Nothing can give us a better Idea of the Riches of this Town, than what Hiſtory tells us of a Queen of *France*, who was Conſort to *Philip the Fair*; who coming to *Bruges* in the Year 1301, ſeeing the Women ſo richly dreſt, could not in a Sort of Indignation forbear ſpeaking theſe Words, *I thought I had been the only Queen in this Place, but I ſee there are above Six Hundred.*

The immenſe Riches of the People of *Bruges* on Account of their vaſt Trade, made them not only grow inſolent and unjuſt to foreign Merchants (ſo that they left the Place) but alſo to their Sovereign, which was the very Ruin of their Trade, that had flouriſhed in an extraordinary Manner to the Year 1487, when a War broke out between the *Flemings* and the Arch-Duke *Maximilian* their Prince, which laſted about ten Years, and expired with the Death of the Trade of *Bruges*. The People of *Antwerp* and *Amſterdam* grow-

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growing uneasy to see all the Trade of the Low Countries center in *Bruges*, assisted the Arch-Duke *Maximilian* in chastising that Town for their Rebellion; and in Recompence for such Assistance, obtained from that Prince all the Privileges of Commerce formerly enjoyed by *Bruges*. Thus was that Trade transferred to *Antwerp* and *Amsterdam*, but the greatest Share fell to *Antwerp*; and every thing after seemed to contribute to the Encrease of its Commerce. The *Italians* much about that time having caused the Use of Silk to be more common in *Europe*, imported great Quantities to *Antwerp*. The *Portuguese* and *Spaniards* having discovered both *Indies*, imported Spices, and all other the rich Commodities produced by those vast and wealthy Climates; the *English* set up a Store-House for their Merchandise, and the Hanse Towns, who after the thirteenth Century, had settled one of their four Magazines of Goods at *Bruges*, removed it to *Antwerp*, where they caused to be built that stately Town-House which remains to this Day.

The Persecutions raised in *Germany* on the Account of Religion, under the Reign of the Emperour *Charles* the Fifth, in *France* under *Henry* the Second, and in *England* under Queen *Mary*, forced a World of People thither, as well as Trade, and particularly encreased that of *Antwerp*. The vast Concourse of all the prin-

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principal trading Nations made this Town the most celebrated Store-House, or Magazine in all *Europe*, if not of the whole World. In a Word, *Antwerp* was *then*, almost what *Amsterdam* is *now*; for about the Year 1550, it was a common thing to see 2500 Ships in the *Scheld*, laden with all Sorts of Merchandise. By this it evidently appears, that Commerce may flourish in a Monarchy, as well as in a Free State, especially if good Management be not wanting; for never any thing flourished more than the Manufactures and Commerce of the Low Countries, under the Government of four Princes of the House of *Burgundy*, and two of the House of *Austria*. I lay a long while under that old vulgar Error, that Common Wealths were most proper for carrying on a considerable Trade; but I altered my Opinion, after I had more narrowly examined things, and heard this Matter discussed by some of the ablest Merchants and Politicians of *England* and *Holland*, and after I had seriously reflected on the happy Situation and Fruitfulness of *France*, the Industry of its Inhabitants, and the Nature of its Government, I was fully convinced (and I think it would not be a hard Matter to convince others) that Commerce may be made to flourish there, as well as in any Republick whatever, and by that Means render that Monarchy more powerful than ever it was yet.

It

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It is certainly the Interest of Princes that Commerce should flourish in their Dominions; for never were greater things performed by Sovereigns than when the Trade of their Subjects has afforded them the Means to put them in Execution, which may easily be proved by infinite Examples both ancient and modern.

Trade has the only attractive Quality to draw into any State, Gold and Silver, which are the *Primum Mobile* of all Actions. This is so true, that *Spain*, in whose Dominions these two Metals are produced in greatest Abundance, is very often straitned for other Necessities of Life, and that purely for having neglected Trade and Manufactures, and all the Mines of *America* would scarce be sufficient to pay for all the Merchandise and Provisions that the other Nations of *Europe* bring thither.

Trade (which has not any Enemy so mortal as Constraint) changed its Residence as soon as the *Spaniards* began to deprive the seventeen Provinces of the Low Countries of their Privileges. The Inquisition which was designed to be set up by the Duke of *Alva*, and the Cruelty he exercised in governing those rich Provinces, forced such infinite Numbers to leave them, that in a few Months, above a Hundred Thousand Families retired into other Parts. After this, the Prince of *Parma* having in the Year 1584, besieged *Antwerp*, gave

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gave a terrible Blow to its Trade; for the *Scheld* during that long Siege, being continually blocked up, the Merchants who uſed to come and trade in that Town, went elſewhere. In ſhort, the bad Politicks of the King of *Spain* compleated the Ruin of the Trade of *Antwerp*, as well as of the other Towns in the Low Countries, that were under his Juriſdiction. For the Views he had in humbling that Town, whoſe great Riches gave him Umbrage, made him, after its Reduction, neglect to keep the *Scheld* open, intending by ſo doing, to leſſen its Trade, in hopes that moſt of it would then diffuſe it ſelf over the other Towns in the Low Countries. But his Hopes were fruſtrated: for being engaged in almoſt continual Wars with his Neighbours, and not taking due Care to free the Seas from Rovers and Enemies, it ſo fell out, that the Towns of *Flanders*, which uſed to follow the Fiſhery and Sea Trade, loſt both, ſo far were they from getting amongſt them any Share of the Trade of *Antwerp*. This made the whole Fiſhery remove to *Holland*, and the Manufactures of *Flanders* into other Countries.

One third Part of the Workmen and Merchants, who wrought, or dealt in Silks, Damasks, Taffeties, and Stockings, *&c.* went to ſettle in *England*, becauſe none in that Country knew at that time to work in thoſe Manufactures. A great many went to *Leyden*, and moſt

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most of them that dealt in Linnen, went to settle in *Harlem*, not to mention those who went to *Amsterdam*.

It is astonishing to think, that the Merchants of *Antwerp*, in leaving a Place the most convenient in the World for Trade, should make choice of one seeming the most improper in all *Europe*. One would have rather thought that the Neighbourhood of *England*, whose Situation and Harbours are so admirably fitted for Trade, might have invited them thither.

Those Merchants who were of the reformed Religion, would have had a greater Inclination to settle there, than in any other Place whatsoever, in hopes not only to live more at quiet, but also on Account of the Situation, which is very advantageous for trading with all *Europe*. But they wanted to be in a Country where Foreigners were not obliged to pay such Customs, and other Taxes, which the native *English* are free from; for in *England*, it seems, at that time, Foreigners and all their Posterity payed double what the Natives did; besides, Foreigners were excluded all Companies or Societies of Trade, so that none were allowed to work either as Partners, or Masters, unless at such Trades as the Natives were unacquainted with, so that none went thither but such as wrought in Serges, Damasks, Stockings, *&c.*

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Moſt of theſe, and the like Inconveniencies, they were alſo ſure to meet with in the Hanſe Towns, which partly was the Cauſe that almoſt the whole Trade of *Antwerp* came to be eſtabliſhed in the Towns of *Holland*, which were free from all thoſe Obſtacles. The Situation of theſe neighbouring Towns, and ſeveral other Conſiderations contributed very much to draw thither, eſpecially to *Amſterdam*, all this vaſt and profitable Trade. After the Union of the ſeven Provinces, and the World ſaw this new Republick defend it ſelf with Succeſs againſt *Spain*, under the Conduct of the Prince of *Orange*, all thoſe who hated the *Spaniſh* Government retired thither as to an *Aſylum*, from its Rigour and Severity.

The Perſecutions which *Spain* renewed with too great Severity in ſeveral Places, againſt thoſe who had embraced the new Opinions, peopled the *United Provinces*, with a World of excellent Artiſans, who ſet up there ſeveral new Manufactures, and brought thoſe they had already, to great Perfection. The Civil Wars that laſted ſo long in *France*, then in *Germany*, and laſt of all in *England*, augmented conſiderably the Inhabitants of the United Provinces, and the Wars which broke out in the Year 1634, in the Low Countries, between *France* and *Spain*, made likewiſe great Numbers of Merchants and Workmen come into *Hol-*

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Holland; for the richeſt Villages of *Flanders*, *Brabant*, and the Country beyond the *Maeſe*, being ruined by Winter Quarters, the Inhabitants themſelves left them, becauſe the moſt trading Towns had loſt all their Commerce, and the Carriage of Goods was liable to ſuch imminent Dangers.

All this cauſed not only the Towns of *Holland* to grow extraordinarily populous, but doubly encreaſed their Trade, as having a prodigious Vent for almoſt all Sorts of their Manufactures and other Commodities, during the Continuance of that War.

But after all, nothing has encreaſed the Inhabitants of *Holland*, and their Manufactures, ſo much as the *French* Proteſtants, who were almoſt all of them Merchants or Artiſans, and came thither about twenty or thirty Years ſince.

To conclude, it muſt be acknowledged for inconteſtable Truth, that whenever Trade is clogg'd or conſtrain'd in any Government, it will retire to others where it may have greater Safety, and be more favourably uſed, which Happineſs, at that time, it could no where find ſo well as in *Holland*.

Having here clearly explained and obſerved the principal Motives which induced ſo many Merchants and Artiſans, to go in Millions to the *United Provinces*, let us now conſider what their Commerce is, how they carry it on, and a Country producing nothing neceſſary to Trade

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and Navigation, is become the Centre of both: For *Holland* produces nothing at all neceſſary, except Butter, Cheeſe, and Clay to make *Delft* Ware, or other Eaſtern Ware, and this is well worth the Obſervation of the Reader that is any ways verſed in Politicks.

The produce of Holland

CHAP. II.

Of the Origin and Cauſes of the vaſt Trade of Holland.

IT is certain, that ſome Manufactures were ſet up in ſeveral Places of *Holland*, even while the Hanſe Towns commanded all the Trade and Navigation of *Europe*.

The Art of Pickling Herrings having been found out, as I before obſerved, about 250 Years ago, and the Ruine of the Trade of *Bruges* encreaſing that of *Holland*, tho' it was but then inconſiderable, in Compariſon to what it was afterwards by the Deſtruction of that of *Antwerp*; the prodigious Numbers of People that left the Low Countries, together with the vaſt Riches they brought thither (not to mention thoſe who came thither from other Countries, where Liberty of Conſcience was not permitted) were of Neceſſity obliged to trade by Sea, to procure for themſelves Neceſſaries for Life, the new Country they were come to inhabit being but of ſmall Extent, and not producing near what they had an abſolute Occa-

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Occasion for. This Barrenness of *Holland* was one of the principal Causes of the great Trade we see carried on there at this time; for the great, and incredible Numbers of People who fled thither for Security, had no other Way to subsist, and to pay those heavy Taxes so often laid upon them, in Defence of their Liberty against the *Spaniards*.

These two powerful Motives, the Preservation of Life and Liberty, caused the Inhabitants of the *United Provinces* to carry their Goods to all Parts of the World, where they had any Prospect of Gain. About the Year 1625, they traded to the Kingdoms of the North; to *Germany*, *Poland*, *Muscovy*, *England*, to the *Spanish* Low Countries, and to *Portugal*, under *Spanish* Colours, or of any other Nation in Alliance with *Philip* II. But the *Spaniards* afterwards having by their Severities and Vexations deterred the *Dutch* from so much as attempting to trade with either of these two Nations, found to their no small Loss, the fatal Consequences of their mistaken Politicks; for the Seamen and Traders, who had by the Interruption of Trade with *Spain* and *Portugal*, lost all Manner of Employment, were resolved not to sit still, but hazard all, rather than live without Trading. With this Resolution they went to visit the Coasts of *America* and *Africa*, and their adjacent Islands; at last, thro' almost infinite Dangers, they penetrated into the East *Indies*.

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By means of these several Voyages they got at first Hand, the greatest Part of those rich Commodities which they before used to furnish themselves with at second Hand, at *Lisbon* and *Seville*; and their famous East *India* Company, which began in the Year 1602, behaved themselves so dexterously, that they possest themselves of the greatest Part of the best Places the *Portugueze* were Masters of in the *Indies*, and of almost all their Commerce too in those Parts.

The Truce of twelve Years being concluded in the Beginning of the Year 1609, between the *Spaniards* and the *United Provinces*, the States General omitted nothing all that time to increase their Trade where it was already established, or to establish it where they never had established it before.

In the Year 1612, the Grand Seignior allowed the *Dutch* a free Trade throughout all his Dominions. This Treaty of Alliance with the *Turks*, gave a free and favourable Access to their Ships, all over the *Mediterranean*. About that time the King of *Morocco*, and the Emperour of *Japan* permitted them also to trade in all their Dominions, since which this Republick might boast of having extended her Commerce over all Parts of the old World, except *China*.

The War breaking out again in the Year 1621, between *Spain* and the *United Provinces*, their East *India* Company pushed on their Con-

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Conquests and Commerce in the East, with surprizing Success, at the Expence of *Spain* and *Portugal*. Their West *India* Company, which began in the Year 1623, notwithstanding the War, besides those immense Sums they gained by taking of the *Spanish* Plate Fleets, and those considerable Advantages they made by ruining their Men of War, possessed themselves of Part of *Brazil*, and the most important Places the *Portugueze* held in *Guinea*, and the other Countries of the Western Coast of *Africa*; and could they but have kept the Conquests they made in *Brazil*, 'tis highly probable they would have been entire Masters of it, and in a few Years would have got into their own Hands, all the Trade of the *Spaniards* and *Portugueze* in that Place.

1623 West Ind. Co. erected

The *United Provinces* having obtained of the *Spaniards* very great Advantages for their Commerce, at the Peace of *Munster*, which was concluded in the Year 1648, they pushed it on with the utmost Vigour during that Calm their Republick then enjoyed, and got together by that means, immense Riches, which put them into a Condition to support the War which they had with *England* and *France*, in the Year 1672. In a Word, this famous Republick has (notwithstanding the Wars) extended her Trade over all Parts of the World, where she has, and still does maintain it with such prudent Conduct, and considerable Authority, that she may serve as a Model for all other trading Nations.

Peace of Munster 1648

1672

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Before we enter into a particular Deſcription of the Trade of the *United Provinces*, in all Parts of the World, It will be very neceſſary to ſpeak ſomewhat of their Fiſhery, Manufactures, and Navigation.

CHAP. III.

Of the Fiſhery, Manufactures, and Navigation of the United Provinces.

IT is certain, as I have already obſerved, that there were ſome Manufactures eſtabliſhed in *Holland*, long before their Fiſhery, Traffick, and Navigation; but then this was ſo inconſiderable a Matter, that it may be truly ſaid, that the Fiſhery gave Birth to their Traffick and Navigation, This was the Opinion of Monſieu *De Wit*, and the moſt underſtanding Perſons in *Holland*.

The Subjects of the *United Provinces* fiſh on their own Sea Coaſts, Lakes, and Rivers, and take vaſt Quantities of Cod, Haddock, Salmon, Soles, and other Sorts of Fiſh, and how conſiderable that Fiſhery may be, and how great the Quantities are which they carry to foreign Countries, yet it may truly be affirmed, that it is ſcarce any thing in Comparison of their Herring Fiſhery, which in the Provinces of *Holland* and *Zealand* employs above twenty Thouſand Men. This Fiſhing, which

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continues from Mid-summer Day to the 14th of *September*, and from thence it holds to the 25th of *November*, is chiefly on the Northern Coasts of *England*, off of *Yarmouth*, *Wintertownness*, and the River *Humber*.

From the very Beginning of this Republick, the States General have always used their utmost Endeavours to secure their Countrymen the Herring Fishery. Their Regulations for that Purpose are wonderful, and the Orders almost innumerable. They take great Care to throw all away that are not extreamly good, and to salt the others in time, that the Salt be good, and the Quantity sufficient; that the Parcels be sweet and clean, and have no manner of Defect that may spoil the Fish. In short, it must be owned, that the *Dutch* omit nothing that may keep up the Value and Reputation this Commodity has acquired by passing through their Hands.

It ought not to be thought strange, that the States General are so very careful of their Herring Fishing, and of their good Way of curing them, since it is a Matter of so great Importance, as to be taken Notice of in all their Proclamations, for the Continuance of Commerce and the Fishery.

The Herring Fishery is the greatest Trade, and the best Gold Mine belonging to the *United Provinces*: This enriches so many Families, and employs so many People; this makes

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them build so many Ships in *Holland*, which they send to all Parts laden with this Commodity. They sell vast Quantities to the neighbouring Countries, and are very often paid in ready Money; 'tis this which encreases their Commerce, their Privileges, and even their Revenues.

Monsieur *Matteren* assures us that in the Year 1601, in three Days time there sailed out from *Holland* 1500 Busses to fish for Herrings. A Buss is a Vessel built on Purpose for this Sort of Fishing, and some of them are from 50 to 60 Tuns.

Sir *Walter Rayleigh* says, that in the Year 1609, the *Dutch* employed on the Coast of *England* in this Fishery, 3000 Ships, and 15000 Men; and a *Dutch* Author who was employed by Messieurs *De Wit*, tells us, that a little while before the Province of *Holland* alone sent out every Year, in time of Peace, above 1000 Busses, and 150 lesser Vessels.

It is said, that the *Dutch* fish and sell every Year above 700000 Tuns of Fish, which at 200 Florins per Tun, brings in every Year 75 Millions of Livres, of which 52 Millions turn (as they say) to the Country's Profit, and the 23 other Millions that remain, go towards defraying the Charges of such Fishery; so that if one considers that all the Ships employed in Fishing are built in *Holland*; that all the Cordage, Sails, Nets, and Barrels, are made there,

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there, and that they find their own Salt and Provisions for the Subsistance of this great Number of Fishermen, one may easily comprehend, that this Employment only, maintains an incredible Number of Men and Families, not including all those who are employed to transport these Fish to almost all the Kingdoms and Countries of the World.

These Busses sail generally from *Dort*, *Rotterdam*, *Delft*, *Schiedam*, *Vlaerdinguen*, the *Brill*, *Maesslandshies*, *Enchuisen*, and some other Places of less Note.

This Art of Pickling and Barrelling Herring, as I said before, was found out by a *Fleming* of *Bierulem*, whose Name was *William Buerem*. He died in the Year 1347, and was buried at *Bierulem*.

Charles the Fifth coming to that Town, caused a Tomb to be erected to honour the Memory of that Man who had procured so great an Advantage to his Country.

To the Fishery in general may be added that of the Whale, the Oil and Fins of which serve for several Uses. They fish for the Whales on the Coasts of *Greenland* and *Spitsburg*, which is but seven or eight Days Voyage with a South Wind, a thing very frequent in *Holland*.

Whale Fishing is only once a Year. There sails from *Amsterdam*, and the neighbouring Towns, from the *Maese* and *Winde*, above 200 Ships from 200 to 250 Tuns Burthen, having

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having each 35 or 40 Men aboard to be employed in the Fishery.

a large Whale yields 7 or 8 Tun of Oil.

The largest Whales yield about 7 or 8 Tun of Oil: This Oil thickens like Hogs-Lard, and they use great Quantities of it in the *United Provinces*, especially the poor and labouring People, to burn in Lamps, and in making green Soap, a thing only in Use in the Low Countries, *Artois* and *Picardy*. Those that make Shammy Leather of Bucks, Goats, Sheeps, and Elks Skins, consume great Quantities of this Oil, which is the most proper for this Sort of Dressing Leather, of any Oil whatsoever, and therefore they cannot well be without it.

Manufactures.

The Manufactures in the *United Provinces* employ as many People as the Fishery. It is incredible how many get their Livelihood by both. I have before observed, that some Manufactures were established before the Fishery, but those Manufactures were then very inconsiderable to what they were afterwards. The Herring Fishery in particular, was so advantageous to the *Dutch*, that the Sale of their Fish brought into their Country, from the Places where they used to dispose of them, several unwrought Goods, which they got finished at Home by those vast Numbers of Workmen of all Sorts, who had fled hither from *Flanders*, *Brabant*, *France*, *Germany*, and several other Countries, on the Account of Persecution.

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I do not pretend to give an exact Particular of all the Manufactures of the *United Provinces*; it would be too prolix for the Brevity of this Treatise. I shall only say, that it is certain, that in no Kingdom, State, or Country in the World, they are so numerous and flourishing, as in *Holland*. I shall take Notice only of some of the most considerable, and such as sell best in other Countries.

Tho' there are Manufactures in several Places of the *United Provinces*, yet they flourish most in the Towns of *Amsterdam*, *Leyden*, and *Harlem*; but *Amsterdam*, for Number, far exceeds the other two.

In this last Town they make Cloths, Camlets, and all Sorts of Woollen and Hair Stuffs; as also, all Sorts of Silks, Gold and Silver Stuffs and Ribbons, and are the best made in this Town of any in all the Provinces. *Harlem* *Amsterdam*

Besides gilt Leather, they work here all other Sorts, as Morocco, Shammy, and many other Sorts; and it may likewise be said, that Dying, which is settled in several other Towns and Places of these Provinces, is one of the most considerable Manufactures of this Republick.

There are also at *Amsterdam* several Houses for Refining Sugar, Borax, Camphire, Cinnaber, and Sulphur; several for whitening yellow Wax, a great many Saw-Mills for all Sorts of Woods, Powder-Mills, Snuff-Mills, Mills to polish Marble, and Mills to draw Oil from *Amsterdam*

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ſeveral Sorts of Seeds. In ſhort, one may ſay of *Amſterdam* what *Vopiſcus* ſaid of *Alexandria*, who after he had given an Account of its Manufactures, added, "That all its Inhabitants "followed ſome Trade; that the lame and the "gouty were employed, and even thoſe that "had the Gout in their Hands did not ſit idle.

The Town of *Leyden*, without Diſpute, is preferable to all others for all Sorts of Woollen Manufactures, eſpecially the fineſt Sort; as Serges, Camlets, and the like. They tell you that theſe Manufactures, after the Year 1400, began to grow in ſome Eſteem, and the Workmen of *Ipres* that fled from their own Country, ſettled themſelves there. But be that as it will, every Body agrees they had not then that Eſteem, till after the Perſecutions for Religion began, which effectually drove great Numbers of Workmen from the Provinces of *Flanders*, *Hainault*, and *Artois*, &c.

They make alſo good Woollen Stuffs at *Harlem*, but they are much inferior to thoſe of *Leyden*, which latter may undoubtedly paſs for the beſt of *Europe* in their Kind.

The *Dutch* have their Wooll from *Spain*, and *England*; *Germany*, *Poland*, and the *Levant*; that Sort of Wooll called *Vigogue*, from *Peru*, and that of *Coramania* from *Perſia*.

The beſt Silks are made at *Harlem*, and this Manufacture, in its Kind, is not inferior to the Cloth Manufacture of *Leyden*. They make

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make in this Place, coarſe flowered Velvets, Linnens, Silks, Gauzes, and in general, all Sorts of ſlight Silks, of which there is a great Conſumption in *Germany*, and all over the North, *Portugal*, and other Places, where they prefer theſe Silks, and the Gold and Silver Brocades made here to thoſe of *France*. Beſides they are 15 or 20 *per Cent* cheaper.

Theſe Manufactures, in Reality, are not ſo beautiful, nor ſo good as thoſe of *Lyons* and *Tours*; but the Difference in the Piece makes amends for that, and makes them go off better. And tho' their Workmen want a Genius for Deſign, and Invention, yet they no ſooner come from *France*, but they imitate them to Perfection. They know how to work and finiſh them with all poſſible Dexterity and Neatneſs. This added to their Cheapneſs, makes other Countries rather make uſe of them.

Beſides, the *Dutch* import Silks from *Italy*, the *Levant*, *Perſia*, *Bengal*, *Tonquin*, and *China*.

The Town of *Delft* is a Place famous for fine earthen Ware, in Imitation of *China*. Delft-Ware

Horne is for dealing in Cheeſe which is made in the North of *Holland*, as alſo for large Earthen, or Stone Ware. Horn &c

In *Dort* and ſome other Places, there are Houſes for refining Salt; and if I miſtake not, Places for Spinning and Bleaching Thread. Dort &c

Sardam, not far from *Amſterdam*, is certainly the only Place in the World where all Sorts Sardam &c

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of Ships are built for the Uſe of Merchants, not only of the *United Provinces*, but of other Countries, which cauſes a prodigious Conſumption of Wood, Cordage, Maſts, Sails, and other Neceſſaries for Shipping, of which great Numbers are daily ſold to Strangers, ready built, and fit for Launching.

The *Dutch* have their Timber from *Muſcovy*, *Norway*, the Lower *Germany*, *Pomerania*, and the Provinces bordering on the *Baltick*. Moſt of this Timber is brought to *Sardam*. which is a Village ſomewhat more than two Leagues long, whoſe Inhabitants are all Carpenters; and they are ſo skilful in their Buſineſs, that (as it is credibly reported) if they have three Months Notice before-hand, they can every Day, for as long a time as is requi-required, build, and compleatly finiſh a Ship of 4 or 500 Tuns.

Tho' all the Linnen that goes under the Name of *Holland*, is not made in the *United Provinces*, yet I cannot but reckon it among their Manufactures, by reaſon of its being bleached there. They make vaſt Quantities in the Provinces of *Groningen*, *Friſeland*, and *Overiſſell*, where there grows Abundance of Flax; and I believe they make great Quantities in the Dutchy of *Juliers*, which they ſend thence in the Beginning of the Spring to *Harlem*, where they bleach wonderfully well by reaſon of the Sea Water, which by its being purified in

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in the *Downs*, gives the Linnen that beautiful White which is so much admired.

The Manufactures of Sail Cloth, which was formerly made in *Britanny*, Cordage, and Fishing Nets, employ almost an infinite Number of People. Sail Cloth Cordage

The *Dutch* generally bring from *Muscovy*, *Poland*, *Dantzic*, *Riga*, and other Towns of the North, those vast Quantities of Hemp and Flax they make use of in their Manufactures. Hemp

Printing employs also a World of People in these Provinces, were every one strives to excel in that Art. It is the same in Hat-making, which is as considerable a Manufacture as that of Paper, which they have within these few Years taken from the *French*. This last Manufacture of Paper, they have set up in several Places; but what they make in *Guelderland* is much the best. paper & printing Hat making

Navigation and Commerce have so near a Relation one to another, that it is very difficult for one to flourish in a State without the other; in Reality, it is impossible one should subsist without the other. For if Navigation be supported by Trade, Trade cannot flourish without Navigation, which may, in some Measure be said to be the very Life and Soul of Trade, since by Navigation all Sorts of Merchandise are so easily transported to all Ports of the World, and with so little Expence. And whatever Nation can make it self Master of Navi-

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Navigation, will be so of Trade, and consequently immense Riches, and (if I may use the Expression) even of Empires and Kingdoms.

The *Dutch* who know very well this important Truth, have for that End omitted no Pains nor Expence; and it has ever been the principal Object of their Care and Application. It must be owned, that their Fishery Manufactures, and vast Trade have furnished them with all possible Advantages of raising their Maritime Affairs above those of other Nations: And the Secret they have found out of sailing, and carrying Goods much cheaper than other People, has contributed as much. This makes other Nations willing to employ the *Dutch* Ships, because 'tis not only less expensive, but they can have in *Holland* Ships always ready to sail for all Countries, but also because of the Convoys they send with their Merchant Ships. Besides, they are very just aud faithful in giving a good Account of all they are entrusted with. This Trust considerably encreases their Navigation, and causes them to build a vast Number of Ships, which gives constant Employment to a prodigious Number of Seamen, who repair thither from all Parts, and on their Arrival, are always sure of finding Business. The Masters of Ships of Freight, in *Holland*, make up a considerable Part of that State.

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We come now to Discourse of the Trade of the *United Provinces* to several Parts of the World; but it will not be improper first to observe, that such Foreign Trade is principally carried on by the Merchants of the Provinces of *Holland* and *Zeland*, &c. and that some certain Species of Commerce is peculiar to some certain Towns.

Amsterdam makes much the greatest Figure in foreign Traffick; for besides the Trade of both the *Indies*, she has likewise that of the *Levant*, *Cadiz*, *Lisbon*, *Muscovy*, and the North, which last is peculiar to her self; some small Trade she has with *France*, for Wines and Brandy, but nothing in Comparison to *Roterdam*: The Situation of this last Town on the *Meuse* or *Maese*, has made her Trade with *France*, *England* and *Scotland*, very considerable; she drives, besides, a great Trade to the *Levant*, *Spain*, and the *East-Indies*; in short, this Town has Commerce with all Parts, the North excepted, yet much inferior to that of *Amsterdam*, tho' her Port so advantageously situated on the *Maese*, as I hinted before, is infinitly better and much more commodious.

The Trade of *Dort* consists in little else than that of Rhenish-Wine, (which is there put on Shoar,) and white Salt, refin'd in that Town. The *Dutch* have most of their pickled and dry'd Salmon from *Dort*.

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Delft, Horn, Enchuisen

Delft, *Horn*, and *Enchuiſen*, have each their peculiar Chamber in the *Eaſt-India* Company. *Delft* is particularly famous for its fine Earthen-ware, reſembling that of *China*; *Horn* for Cheeſe, which its Inhabitants tranſport to all Parts in great Quantities; and ſome Years ago, this Commodity of Cheeſe, and ſome other Articles, made Trade conſiderably flouriſh in *Horn*.

The Commerce of *Enchuiſen* conſiſts chiefly in Herrings, which makes that Town very conſiderable, and very rich.

CHAP. IV.

Of the Dutch *Trade in the North*, Muſcovy *and* Norway.

I Begin with the Northern Trade, not only becauſe 'tis one of the firſt the *Dutch* apply'd themſelves to; but alſo, becauſe 'tis of the greateſt Importance and Neceſſity of any to that Republick; ſince from hence ſhe has the greateſt Part of her Proviſions; as Wheat and other Grain, ſo neceſſary for the Subſiſtance of her People; as alſo, all Things neceſſary for their Navigation, without which, and other Commodities of abſolute Neceſſity, they would find it very difficult to ſupport themſelves.

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ſelves. Under this Article of the Northern Trade, I comprehend that of *Muſcovy*, *Norway*, and all the Ports of the *Baltick*-Sea; that is, that of *Sweden*, *Denmark*, *Poland*, and all the *Lower-Germany*.

The Hanſe Towns for many Years together engroſſed this Trade; but *Erick* the 8th of that Name, King of *Denmark*, againſt whom they waged a cruel and bloody War, having about the Year 1403, call'd in the *Zelanders* and ſome other Nations to his Aſſiſtance, open'd to them the South-Paſſage for their more commodious carrying on their Trade to the *Baltick*, thinking he could have no better way to be revenged on theſe Towns; ſince that time 'tis true they have often boaſted of their keeping that Sea clear of Foreigners, but to little purpoſe; and their Trade (the greateſt that ever was then known) declining in the Year 1500, diminiſhed to that Degree, that their Power came to little or nothing about the Year 1506.

The *Dutch* and *Engliſh* applying themſelves very earneſtly to Navigation, and the former having with much Honour put an end to a War, they had ſo long maintain'd againſt the *Spaniards*, for their Liberties, by the Treaty of 1609, all Nations, eſpecially ſuch as were trading People, courted their Alliance: the Hanſe Towns were the firſt that diſcover'd their Inclinations, believing that nothing would con-

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tribute more to the Preservation of the little Trade and Credit they had left.

The *Dutch*, on their side, desir'd nothing more than such an Alliance, which promis'd them great Advantage in the Northern Trade; and accordingly, on the 22d of *May* 1631, sign'd a Treaty of Confederacy with *Lubeck*, then Chief of the *Teutonick* Hanse Towns, for a free and safe Trade to the *Baltick*: In the Year following, the most considerable of the other Hanse Towns follow'd the Example of *Lubeck*; and the *Dutch* made so good use of these Treaties, and several other Advantages they got in the North, that they have almost entirely stript all the Hanse Towns, *Hamburgh* only excepted, of the little Trade there was left them, and (if we may be allow'd to say so) made themselves Sole Masters of all the Commerce of the North.

I shall in a few Words give you an Account of their Trade to *Muscovy*.

The Trade that *Europe* drove with that vast Empire, was carried on constantly by the way of *Revel* and *Narva*, two Towns in *Livonia*, situated on the extream Parts of the *Baltick*, till the Year 1653; but the *English* who first attempted the North-Passage to *China*, discover'd *Archangel*, one of the best Ports the *Muscovites* have upon the *White Sea*, and the most proper and commodious for a great Trade, being but seven or eight Leagues distant from the

the famous River *Duina*, which runs thro' the greateſt Part of *Muſcovy*; and the Czar granted them great Privileges, to engage them to ſettle a Trade at *Archangel*.

The *Dutch* ſoon follow'd the ſame Route; and, in ſpite of all the Obſtacles the *Engliſh* put in their Way, they obtain'd of the Czar the ſame Permiſſion to Trade to *Archangel*, as the *Engliſh*.

Every Year ſince that Grant, they have ſent thither 36 or 40 Sail of Ships, from 200 to 400 Tuns, which go always from *Holland* in two Squadrons; the firſt conſiſting only of 5 or 6 Ships, goes off uſually in the Month of *June*, and returns in *September*; and the ſecond, conſiſting of 30, or 34 Ships, ſails in *July*, and returns not from *Archangel* till the end of *October*: Theſe two Fleets, which vary ſometimes as to their Number, have always a Convoy allow'd them by the City of *Amſterdam*, which City engroſſes almoſt all that Trade. The Principal Time of Traffick, is during the Fair of *Archangel*, which begins the 20th of *Auguſt*, and ends the laſt Day of that Month.

I ſhall give you here a ſhort Account of the Principal Commodities the *Dutch* import to *Muſcovy*, and what they bring thence, viz. Silk, Linnen and Woollen Stuffs, Beaver's Skins from *Canada*, Paper, Small-Ware of all ſorts, and Iron-work, Cannon, and Small-Arms, Gun-powder, Sulphur, Copper, Lead, Tin,

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Tin, Wines, Brandies, Oils, and Vinegar, Confections and dry Fruits, Saffron, Sugar, Spices, Pepper, and Pickled Herrings of the first Season, Frankincense, Copperas, Ceruse, or White-Lead, Indigo, and all sorts of Woods for dying Red, Galloons and Laces of all sorts, Gold and Silver-Thread, and all sorts of Silver Coin.

I shall before I conclude this Treatise, make some Remarks on the Commodities sent to and exported from *Muscovy*.

However by this Account, one may easily see, how considerable the *Dutch* Trade to *Muscovy* is, not only in relation to its Convoys and Returns, but also on Account of the Number of Ships it continually maintains. One would have imagin'd the *English*, who first enjoy'd the Privileges of paying no manner of Custom, should have made themselves entirely Masters of the *Muscovite* Trade; however, it is certain, they send now a-days no more than 4 or 5 Vessels thither, while the *Dutch* commonly send 40, or thereabouts.

The English Trade to Muscovy

A certain *English* Author has taken a great deal of Pains, to let us know what Methods the *Dutch* made use of to raise their Commerce with *Muscovy*, above that of *England*: His Words are these:

'The *English* Cloths are not valued in *Russia*, because they are dearer than those of 'Holland, which, tho' they shrink after being 'wet,

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'wet, above a fixth part, yet the *Ruſſians* pre-
'fer them to our Cloths, becauſe ſay they,
'no Cloth will ſhrink but what is New. It
'muſt be own'd, that we are much in the
'wrong in not complying with their Humour,
'and reſtraining our ſelves to that Commodi-
'ty only, while the *Dutch* bring them thither
'a vaſt Quantity of Toys, things that ſell
'better there than Cloths, which begin now
'to be out of Faſhion in that Country.

'If the *Dutch* have entirely eſtabliſh'd in
'*Ruſſia* the *Perſian* and *Indian* Silk Trade, I
'am afraid the *Engliſh* will find it a a very dif-
'ficult Matter to recover their Immunities and
'Privileges; for the *Ruſſians* are now grown
'cunning, having been corrupted by the *Dutch*,
'who know well how to diſtribute their Mo-
'ney to the beſt Advantage, and being much
'richer in that Country, and of greater Cre-
'dit, and more numerous than the *Engliſh*,
'leave no Stone unturn'd to ruine them, and
'have ſucceeded too well in their Project,
'much better than could be imagin'd. By Pre-
'ſents they gain the Friendſhip and Protection
'of the Nobility, and make us deſpicable by
'ſcandalous Pictures, and impudent defamato-
'ry Libels.

'The only way in my Opinion, to re-
'eſtabliſh our Reputation and Commerce
'in that Country, would be to permit only
'ſuch Merchants to trade thither as ſhould

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give no Credit for any Merchandize, tho' the *Russians* fix a Time for Payment, and to represent by Persons of Worth and good Understanding, the flourishing Condition of the Dominions of the King of *Great Britain*.

Their Norway Trade. Let us now come to the Trade of *Norway*. The Riches of this Kingdom, which is in subjection to the Crown of *Denmark*, consist in Masts for Ships, and other sorts of Timber, as well for Ship-building as other Carpenter's Work, Copper, and Iron Mines, Pitch and Tar, dry'd Fish, Furrs, Buck-skins, Ashes, Butter and Tallow.

These are the Chief Commodities the *Norway* Merchants exchange with Foreigners for many things they want, of absolute Necessity for the Support of Life. The *Dutch* who have a greater Trade to *Norway* than all other Nations put together, carry usually thither Spices, Salt, Canary, Vinegar, Brandy, Cheese, Tobacco Rolls, Drapery, and Small Wares.

Tho' this Kingdom is of vast Extent, yet there is but very little Consumption, being neither Rich nor well Peopled; and it may be said, that even Money would be entirely unknown here, was it not for what the *Dutch* bring along with them to buy Timber.

But however inconsiderable the *Norway* Trade may seem, it employs notwithstanding [illegible] 200 *Dutch* Vessels, most of which come from

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from the Towns and Villages of *Friseland*, and those about *Amsterdam*, they are commonly of 4 or 500 Tons Burthen, and have not above 10 or 12 Hands a-piece.

Berghen, the Capital of *Norway*, has a good Port, and is the Place of greatest Trade: The *Dutch* resort to several other Ports, as *Drontheim* and *Copernick*.

As Timber is the chief Commodity the *Dutch* deal for in *Norway*, and which they bring in great Quantities from that Kingdom, they have concluded many Treaties with the King of *Denmark* to secure that Trade, *viz.* the Treaty of *Christianople*, signed *August* 13, 1645, and that of the *Hague*, the 12th of *February* 1669.

CHAP. V.

Of the Baltick *Trade.*

THE Trade of this Sea, which is almost 2000 Leagues in Circumference, includes that of the Kingdoms of *Sweden* and *Denmark*; the Countries of *Mecklenberg*, *Pomerania*, *Prussia*, *Courland* and *Livonia*; most of which, supply the *Dutch* with a prodigious Quantity of all sorts of Grain, abundance of Copper, Iron, Steel, Arms of all sorts, Wood and

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and Timber, Hemp, Flax, Pitch, Tar, and several other Commodities.

They carry a much greater Quantity of Goods from the *Baltick* than they bring to it, the Consumption being very inconsiderable in those Parts, unless it be at *Dantzick*, which is the common Magazine or Store-house of *Poland*; the Discount or Overplus they pay in *Rixdollars*, which they bring along with them.

Dantzick

As most of the Commodities that come from the *Baltick* Sea are bulky and very heavy, that Trade employs a great Number of Ships, and the *Dutch* send thither every Year 1000 or 1200.

Denmark its Trade

Denmark yields but few Commodities to Strangers, and the Trade of that Kingdom is nothing near so considerable as that of *Norway*; the *Dutch* bring a pretty good Quantity of Wheat from the small Island of *Laland*, which is very fruitful in all sorts of Grain, especially Wheat. About forty Years ago they used to lade about twelve Ships with Rye from the Isle of *Zeland*, but the Boors now a-days scarce Sow more than what suffices for their Subsistance.

The *Dutch* bring also every Year vast Numbers of lean Horn'd Cattle from *Jutland*, which they turn into the Meadows in *Holland* to fatten; and this is none of the least profitable Articles in the *Dutch* Trade.

Den-

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Denmark has no conſiderable Port, but that of *Copenhagen*, which in reality is one of the fineſt in the World. *Copenhagen*

Sweden ſupplies the *Dutch* with more Commodities than *Denmark*, and its Trade is much more conſiderable. The principal Goods they bring from this Country are Copper, (the beſt in *Europe*) Iron, Steel, great Quantities of all ſorts of Arms made of thoſe Mettals, as Muskets, Piſtols, Cannons for Ships, Bullets, Pikes, Helmets, Breaſt-Plates, and Braſs Wire, not to mention vaſt Quantities of other Goods and Commodities, as Lead, Copper, Pitch, Tar, Maſts, Planks, and Barks made of Deal, the beſt in the North. *Sweden*

The *Dutch* on their Part, furniſh *Sweden* with the ſame Commodities as they do *Denmark*, and much about the ſame Quantity, *viz.* Spices and Drugs of all ſorts, Salt, Sugar, Wines, Brandies, Linnen, Silks, and Woollen Stuffs, and ſuch other Manufactures as thoſe two Northern Kingdoms ſtand moſt in need of. The *Dutch* may be ſaid to be in ſome ſort the Maſters of the greateſt Part of the *Swediſh* Trade, ſince they are of the Copper. The Farmers of theſe Mines, having always Occaſion for Money, ſell this Commodity to the Merchants of *Amſterdam*, who advance them whatever Sums they want: 'Tis juſt the ſame with their Pitch and Tar, the ſame Merchants buying moſt of theſe Goods from the King's *Denmark*

Farmers,

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Farmers, and making them beſides very conſiderable Advances: This is the Reaſon why theſe and other *Swediſh* Goods are ſold as cheap at *Amſterdam* as in *Sweden* itſelf.

The chief Trade this Kingdom has with Foreigners, is at *Stockholm*, the Capital City, and ſome other Ports of the ancient Dominions of *Sweden*, as well as thoſe of its Conqueſts in *Germany* and *Poland*, of which I ſhall diſcourſe hereafter.

Pomerania in the Year 1648, was divided by the Treaty of *Oſnabrugh*, between the *Swedes* and *Brandenburghers*; that Part of it which is waſhed by the *Oder*, and the Ports of *Stralſund*, *Wolgaſt* and *Stetin* belong to the King of *Sweden*, and the other Part where *Colberg*, a Place of great Commerce is ſituated, belongs to the Elector of *Brandenburg*.

Pomerania abounds in great Quantities of Corn, vaſt Numbers of Cattel, Skins, Leather, Wool, Timber, *&c.* the Iſle of *Rugen*, which is one of its Dependencies, produces a great deal of Wheat.

Stetin, the Capital of *Pomerania*, ſituated on the *Oder*, is a Place of the greateſt Trade with Strangers in that Province; that of *Sileſia* are of the richeſt and moſt fruitful Provinces in *Germany*, in Corn, Honey, Butter, Wax, Lead, Iron, Wooll, Tin, Flax, Linnen and Woollen Cloths, is alſo carried on in *Stetin*, which likewiſe ſhares great Part of the Trade of the Marquiſate

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Marquisate of *Brandenburg*, the River *Oder* running thro' both Provinces.

The *Dutch*, among other Things, export from *Pomerania* all sorts of Corn, vast Quantities of coarse Wooll, *Silesia* Linnen, Timber, Masts, and other Commodities.

Prussia is divided into two Parts, *viz.* the Royal *Prussia*, belonging to the Crown of *Poland*, and the Ducal *Prussia* in subjection to the Marquis of *Brandenburg*, now King of *Prussia*, which Title was conferr'd on him by this Emperor's Father, about 10 or 12 Years since. This Kingdom, or rather Demy-Province, is very fruitful in Wheat, which is look'd upon to be better than that any in *Poland*; it has several very good Sea-Ports, amongst which *Dantzick*, *Koningsberg*, and *Memel* are the most considerable: The two last are in the Ducal, and the first in the Royal *Prussia*, and almost all the *Polish* Trade is carried on in that Port: But before I treat of this Branch of Trade, I shall speak a few Words in relation to that of the Ducal *Prussia*, part of which is carried on at *Koningsburg*, a Town situated at the Mouth of the *Pregel*; this Port is much frequented by the *English*, as well as *Dutch*; the large Vessels commonly unlade at *Pillaw* (a Port, formerly a Fortress only, on the Mouth of the *Frisckiaff*) that they may the more easily go up to *Koningsberg*; besides the Commodities of the Country,

Prussia

Dantzick
Koningsberg
Memel

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Country, that abound here, *Lithuania* and *Poland* send to this Place by the Way of *Pregel*, great Quantities of Oak for Coopers Work, abundance of Aſhes, Wheat, Leather, Furrs, Rice, Honey, Wax, Barley, Millet, and Hemp. The *Dutch* bring likewiſe to *Koningsberg*, Cloths, Wines, Cheeſe, Salt, Tobacco, Spices, Iron, Lead, Tin, and old *Dutch* Dollers.

Poland

Poland is the moſt fruitful Country in the World, in all ſorts of Grain, good Paſturage, Cattle, Wax, and Honey, beſides Mines of Salt, Iron, Lead Copper, Quick-ſilver, Vitriol, Salt-Petre, and Sulphur. All the Commerce of this great Kingdom is chiefly carried on at *Dantzick*, ſome ſmall Part excepted, at the other Ports of *Pruſſia* and *Livonia*: The Situation of *Dantzick*, on the Mouth of the *Viſtula*, is wonderfully commodious for Trade; for that River, which is one of the moſt famous in *Europe*, from South to North, runs thorough the greateſt Part of the fertile Plains of *Poland*, and is almoſt Navigable all along its Courſe, which is more than 300 Leagues. This makes *Dantzick* one of the chief Towns in *Europe*, as well on Account of its great Trade, as its vaſt Extent, and Riches: The great Magazines of Wheat in this Place, make it be taken Notice of by all *Europe*; and for that Reaſon *Dantzick* is commonly call'd, the Granary of the Nor-

Dantzick

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Northern Kingdoms, and the *United Provinces.*

Beſides *Dantzick*, properly ſpeaking, is a Republick governed by its own Laws, under the Protection of the Crown of *Poland*: The Inhabitants have this Privilege, that none but they can buy any *Poliſh* Corn, if once enter'd their Port; but then on the other hand, they muſt take all what is brought at the Price the Magiſtrates ſhall ſet upon it.

As the *Poles* are all Strangers to Trade and Navigation, and much leſs to Manufactures, ſo are they oblig'd to make uſe of Strangers, the *Dutch* eſpecially, to ſupply them with what Commodities they from time to time ſtand in need of. Here follows an Account of the Principal Goods they generally are ſupply'd with from Abroad, *viz.*

All ſorts of Silks, great Quantities of Cloth, Woods for Dying, all ſorts of Spices, Drugs, *Italian Crema Tartar*, Sugar, Oyl, Paper; Wines of all ſorts, *French* Salt and Brandies; of theſe Liquors, there is a great Conſumption in *Pruſſia*. *Pruſſia*

Theſe Commodities are generally truck'd for Wheat, and other Corn, Oak and Deal, excellent Maſts, Hemp and Flax, Honey, Wax and Tallow, Steel, Iron, Copper and Lead; Saltpetre, Salt, Pitch and Tar, yellow Amber, Bulls and Cow Hides, Furrs, and Wooll, *&c.*

Dant-

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Dantzick

Dantzick being the greateſt Place for Trade in the North, the *Dutch* have ever taken a particular Care to aſſiſt that Town in the Preſervation of its Liberties againſt the Attempts of the Kings of *Poland* and *Sweden*, and other Powers.

Courland

The Dutchy of *Courland* is a particular Sovereignty, under the Protection of *Poland*; *Libaw* and *Memel* are its two Sea-Ports, from whence, beſides Wheat and Wood, a great deal of Linſeed is tranſported to *Holland*, where they uſe great Quantities in making of Oil; great Quantities is likewiſe carry'd into *Flanders* for Seed, the Linſeed of thoſe Countries being apt to degenerate, and become unfit for Sowing. I have been credibly informed, that the *Dutch* employ in the Trade of *Courland*, every Year 20 or 25 Ships.

Libaw Memel

Livonia

Livonia belongs to *Sweden*; and is one of the moſt fruitful Countries in the World for Wheat, and would be one of the richeſt, had not a long War ſwept off ſuch vaſt Numbers of its Inhabitants: Not only the greateſt Commerce of this vaſt Province, but good Part of that of *Muſcovy* and *Lithuania* is carried on in the Ports of *Riga*, *Revel* and *Narva*; it is partly by the River *Narva*, and partly by their Sledges in the great Snows, that the *Muſcovites* and *Lithuanians* bring to *Riga* their Flax, Hemp, Wax, Pitch, Wheat and Furrs, *&c.*

Riga Revel Narva

Revel

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Revel has for a long time since, been reputed one of the best Northern Towns for Trade; its Situation and Port seem contriv'd for Traffick, especially that of *Muscovy*, which flourished here very much, before the North Passage to *Archangel* was found out. *Revel*

Narva is situated on the River of that Name; this Town is well known to those who Trade to *Muscovy* by the *Baltick*, being the direct Passage to *Novogrod* and *Pleskou*, two Towns of the greatest Trade in that Empire, and both 40 Leagues distant from *Narva*. *Narva* *Novogrod* *Pleskou*

The little Town of *Pernaw*, is in like Manner situated on a River of the same Name; People come thither to load Wheat for the *Netherlands*; it's Trade grows more considerable every Day, by reason of those great Quantities of excellent and well proportion'd Masts, and other fit Timber that come thither by Water: It is believ'd, if this Trade holds, it will prejudice that of *Norway*; for the *Dutch*, that used before the Year 1680, to send five or six Ships yearly to *Pernaw*, send now 50 or 60. *Pernaw*

The chief Commodities that are exported from these four Towns of *Livonia*, and especially from *Riga*, are great Quantities of Wheat, and other Grain; Masts from *Russia* and *Livonia*, (the latter are the most valuable) Wood for Tuns, Pipes and Barrels, Oak,

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Cordage, Deal-Boards, Hemp, Flax, Linseed, Wax, Honey, and Tallow, *&c.*

And in Exchange they give old Dollars, Salt, Spices, Sugar, Tobacco, Paper, Iron-Work and Small Wares, *&c.*

SECTION I.

Remarks on what Commodities the Dutch *export to the North, and import from thence.*

AS there are much more Goods that come from the North, than what are carry'd to these Parts; so Money is absolutely necessary to discharge the overplus; and it would be difficult, without this necessary Ingredient, to make any advantageous Voyages to the North. *Dutch* Dollars go very current there, and are much esteemed; and there is scarce any other Species seen in the North; and were it not for the Gold and Silver these Northern People get, merely on Account of their Trade, Money would be very scarce with them, as I observed before.

Next to Gold and Silver, Spices are the best Commodities one can carry into the North; these are as much valued there, as if they were

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were things absolutely necessary to support Life; there is a prodigious Consumption of them, especially in *Muscovy* and *Poland*. The Consumption in *Muscovy* is chiefly in Nutmegs and Pepper, which they use in their ordinary Drink, as well as in Brandy; and I have been very well assured, that the *Dutch* have brought into *Muscovy*, 8 or 900 Bails of Pepper and Nutmegs. Sugar, Tobacco, and Drugs, both for the Apothecary and Dying, sell well in the North; Sea-Salt is also a very necessary Commodity in the North, of which there is almost an infinite Consumption: They have many Years since laid aside the making of Salt themselves, having been used to the *Portugal* and *Spanish* Salt. And as for the *French* Salt, there is scarce any sold but in *Prussia*.

There is likewise in these Countries a prodigious Consumption of *French* and *Spanish* Wines, Brandy, Oil and Vinegar; Paper and dry'd Fruits of all sorts; in short, whatever the warm Countries produce sell well here. In *Muscovy* and *Poland* there is also a vast Consumption of Cloth and Woollen Stuffs, and Silks of the *Dutch* and *English* Manufactury; but these Stuffs, Silks, and Cloth, must be of all Sorts, Qualities, and Colours; they sell great Quantities of the coarser sort in *Muscovy*, as well as coarse Linnen, in the other Countries of the North; the vent of Woollen-Stuffs is not so considerable.

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Almoſt all the Silks, Gold and Silver Brocades, they bring into the North, are made in *Holland*; heretofore they uſed to have them from *France*, as well as other Commodities neceſſary for the Northern Countries; that is, Wines and Brandy, Syrups, Apples, Cheſnuts, Soap, Paper, Hats, Brocades, Ribands, Iron-Ware and Small Wares from *Paris*; Stuffs made at *Rheims* and *Chalons*; but the Conſumption of theſe Commodities of the *French*, was very much diminiſhed even before the laſt War, the *Dutch*, their near Neighbours and Enemies, having ſet up in *Holland* moſt of their Manufactures; who by reaſon of the War between the two Nations, reſolv'd to ſeek elſewhere thoſe neceſſary Proviſions they ſtood ſo much in need of at Home, and that they might continue and augment their Northern Commerce, entirely abandoned that of *France*, which indeed, by reaſon of almoſt continual Wars, was very nigh reduced to nothing.

All the Commodities exported to the North, moſt of which being neceſſary for Proviſions and Cloathing, are paid for with the Commodities of the Country. Corn ought to be reckoned the chief Article amongſt the Commodities of the North, that the *Dutch* deal in; and that Trade is one of the moſt neeceſſary and conſiderable they can have in the *Baltick*; for they not only bring thence ſufficient for their own Subſiſtance, but ſend vaſt Quantities into *France*

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France at a prodigious Price, as well as into *Italy*, *Spain* and *Portugal*, nay even into *Flanders* it self, in a scarce Year.

The *Dutch* employ commonly in this Trade only, 7 or 800 Ships, that go for Wheat and other Grain to the Ports of the *Baltick*-Sea, *Hamburg* and *Dantzick* it self, and sometimes as far as *Muscovy*.

The several sorts of Grain they chiefly bring thence into *Holland*, are, *Turkish* Wheat, or Buck-Wheat, Linseed, Rice, Millet, and Hempseed; *Dantzick* is the principal Port whence they chiefly have these sorts of Grain and Seed; they export great Quantities likewise from the Ports of *Livonia*, *Prussia*, *Pomerania*, *Holstein*, *Denmark* and *Sweden*.

Next to this the most considerable is the Wood or Timber Trade; for not only their Shipping consume vast Quantities, but they use besides no less in making Tuns, Pipes, Barrels, and other Cask; not including what is used in Houses, Buildings, small Boats, Dikes, Piles, and Fortifications, both by Sea and Land. They sell also not a little to the *French* and *Spaniards* at very high Rates; but all this is nothing to that prodigious Quantity they use in building Ships and other Vessels, which are continually employ'd either for their own Use or other Nations. Fir or Deal they have chiefly from *Norway* and *Sweden*. The *Baltick* likewise supplies them with fine Oaks and Oak-Planks for Coopers

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Work. Ship-Masts, as I observed before, come from *Norway*, *Muscovy*, *Riga*, *Nerva*, *Revel* and *Dantzick*. The *Dutch* bring besides great Quantities of Timber into *Holland*, by the Rivers *Rhine*, *Elbe*, and *Weser*; so that this may be reckon'd as one of the most important and necessary Trades to their Republick. To be convinced of this, one need only see their Magazine at *Sardam*.

Hemp and Flax make one of the most advantageous Articles of the Trade of the North: 'Tis very easy to judge, that the Quantity that comes thence must be prodigious, being sufficient to furnish almost all the Ports of *Europe*. This Commodity of Hemp comes from *Riga*, *Konigsberg*, *Nerva*, *Revel* and *Muscovy*.

The *Dutch* deal also in vast Quantities of Wooll, which they transport from all Parts of the North, as well from *Poland*, *Prussia*, and *Pomerania*, as from *Denmark*, *Holstein*, *Mecklenberg*, *Silesia*, *Saxony*, *Brandenburg*, and the other Countries of the *Lower-Germany*; as likewise, in a great deal of Linnen from *Silesia*, which is particularly employ'd in the Trade to *Spain* and the Coast of *Africa*.

They make very rich Returns in Sables and other Furs from *Muscovy*; thence come likewise Skins ready dress't, or Leather, as well as from *Poland*, *Prussia* and *Denmark*: That which we call *Russia* Leather, which is made of the Hides of Cows and Oxen, is dress't by

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the *Muſcovites* in ſuch a Manner, as no where elſe to be imitated. This Trade is very conſiderable, and they vend great Quantities of theſe Commodities in *France*, *Spain* and *Italy*.

From *Muſcovy* comes alſo the fine Bever-Fur, to make Hats; this Fur is for the moſt part very ſoft and ſilky; and the *Muſcovites* have it in great Quantities brought to them in whole Skins from *Canada*, and is the fineſt in the World; they have an Art to Dreſs them ſo advantageouſly, as to make the Fur very long and thick, and with theſe Skins they border and line their Cloaths.

The Caviear that is brought from *Muſcovy*, and is made of the Spawn of Sturgeons, is a good Commodity in *Italy*: They pretend that there goes out every Year from *Arch-Angel*, bound directly for *Leghorn* and *Venice*, at leaſt 3 or 4 Ships, which are above one fourth Part laden with Caviear; the reſt of the Lading is of *Ruſſia* Leather.

The Wax-Trade is very advantageous to the *Dutch*, and which they likewiſe carry on in the North, this Commodity being ſubject neither to ſpoil or waſte; and this they ſell and trade with in the greateſt and beſt Parts of *Europe* for immenſe Sums; and the Conſumption in *America* is no leſs. Therefore this Commodity ought to be conſidered as one of the greateſt Articles of Trade between *Hol-*

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land and *Spain*: The Yellow Wax, which comes from the North, is chiefly the produce of *Poland* and *Muſcovy*, Countries where the Bees ſeem to have choſen principally to reſide.

Yellow or Fat Amber is no where found, or fiſhed for, but in the Banks of the Ducal *Pruſſia*, (now the Kingdom of that Name:) I have been aſſured from good Hands, that the Farming only of that Fiſhery, brought yearly into the Elector of *Brandenburg*'s Coffers no leſs than ſeventy five Thouſand Livres. The Brown Amber is the Product alſo of that new Kingdom, and ſerves to Trade with even to *Guinea* and the *Eaſt-Indies*.

Aſhes are a great Article in the Northern Trade, and chiefly come from *Dantzick*, *Konigsberg* and *Muſcovy*; but the laſt are eſteemed the beſt: They deal for vaſt Quantities, to make black Soap and ſcower Cloth.

Pitch and Tar being Things abſolutely neceſſary for Navigation, to caulk and otherwiſe fortify Ships, Boats and other Veſſels, there is a vaſt Conſumption of theſe in *Holland*. They have the greateſt Quantities from *Stockholm* and *Wirtzburg*, but what comes from *Muſcovy* is the deareſt.

The *Dutch* export a great deal of Tallow from *Muſcovy*, tho' it be not ſo good as their own; they likewiſe are furniſhed with it from *Germany*.

Iron

Iron comes chiefly from *Sweden*, and Steel from *Dantzick*.

Copper from *Sweden* and *Norway*; but that from *Sweden* is beſt, and in greater Quantities than elſewhere.

The *Dutch* are ſupplied from the North, and eſpecially *Sweden*, with ſeveral ſorts of Arms and warlike Stores; and that in ſuch large Quantities, as not only to furniſh them ſufficiently for their own Fleets and Armies, but to bring them in beſides prodigious Sums of Money, by trading with theſe Commodities to almoſt all other Nations. I take no notice of a great many other Particulars of the Northern Trade, being Matters of leſs Moment, but paſs them over in ſilence, as I have other things of the like Nature, in relating to the Trade of other Countries.

It is eaſie to ſee by the Variety and great Quantity of Merchandize, that the Trade of the North muſt needs be of extream Importance to the *Dutch*, ſince it ſupplies them with almoſt every thing that is neceſſary for their Subſiſtence and Navigation; this makes them omit nothing to preſerve it: They have ſtrenuouſly oppos'd the Northern Powers, when ever they have endeavour'd to make themſelves Maſters of it (as *Sweden* amongſt the reſt has often attempted to do) and then they have ever taken Care, by all means, to hinder too great Impoſts or Cuſtoms to be laid on ſuch

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Merchandize as come from thence, or are tranſported thither; and to compaſs this, they have more than once engaged in long and tedious Wars.

The Houſe of *Auſtria* well knew that the only way to ſap the very Foundation of the Republick of *Holland*, would be to deprive her of the Trade of the *Baltick*, which made *Ferdinand* II. endeavour with all his Power, to make himſelf Lord of that Sea. That Houſe has ſince made frequent Attempts to trouble their Commerce, but with very little Succeſs.

I deſign one time or other, more fully to ſet forth what the *Dutch* have done in relation to their Trade, either by private Negociations or open Force: But in the mean while I ſhall ſay this in ſhort, that one of the Fundamental Maxims of their Government, is, by all means poſſible to hinder the Merchants of the North to Trade in too great Numbers to the Southern and Weſtern Parts of *Europe*, and theſe on the other hand, from trading in too great Numbers to the North.

This Republick being ſo advantagiouſly ſituated in the middle of both, will always with her utmoſt Power endeavour that the Trade of *Europe* ſhould not be carried on but through her hands, by which means ſhe will always have that good Fortune of knowing the Secret, how to ſell all ſorts of Merchandize cheaper than any other Country, and

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and almoſt as cheap as where they were firſt made and produc'd.

CHAP. VI.

Of the Trade of the Elbe, Wezer, Rhine, *and the* Maeſe.

THE *Dutch* carry on good part of the *German* Trade by way of theſe Rivers; the three laſt of which diſembogue themſelves into their Eſtates: This Trade is very advantageous on account of the Proviſions and Merchandize that are convey'd to them by theſe ways, as by the great Conſumption that is made, by what is ſent back in Return.

The *Elbe* takes its Source in *Bohemia*, and after having travers'd that Kingdom, and the Electorates of *Saxony*, *Brandenburg* and *Hanover*, falls into the Ocean, about 20 Leagues below *Hamburgh*.

'Tis in this City (the moſt rich and flouriſhing in all *Germany* for Trade) that the *Dutch* ſecure to themſelves that of the *Elbe*; that is, the Trade of the beſt part of the Provinces of the *Lower Germany*.

The Dutch carry to *Hamburgh* ſuch Commodities as ariſe from their own Manufactures of Silk and Wool, ſmall Wares, Spices, Drugs, and other Neceſſaries.

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Hence they have their Braſs Wire, White Iron (as they call it) or Tin'd Plates made in *Saxony*, Corn, Timber for Shipping, and for the moſt part, all other Commodities of the North.

The *Dutch* ſometimes go up the *Elbe* as far as *Harburgh* and *Madgeburgh*, where they lade great Quantities of Wood and Wine (which they buy there) and ſometimes hew down whole Foreſts, and take away the Wood as they have Occaſion.

The People of *Hamburgh*, in ſhort, have ſuch a conſiderable Trade to all the Ports of *Europe*, that their City has gain'd the Name of little *Amſterdam*.

The *Wezer*, like the *Elbe*, runs thro' a good part of the fertile Provinces of the *Lower Germany*. The City of *Bremen*, which is ſituated on this River, 15 Leagues before its falling into the Sea, is a Place of great Trade, both active and paſſive; and I am very well inform'd it has the right of *Staple*. The Provinces bordering on the *Wezer*, and the Rivers that fall into it all along its vaſt Courſe, furniſh *Bremen* with excellent Timber, of greater Eſteem and Value, and much dearer than that of *Norway* and the *Baltick*; as alſo Wheat, Wool, ſeveral ſorts of Mettals, and Beer; that of *Brunſwick*, call'd Mum, is the beſt and moſt eſteem'd, a great deal of which, as

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as well as that of *Bremen*, is ſent to the *Eaſt Indies*.

The *Dutch* buy theſe, with their Silk and Woollen Stuffs, and ſometimes with their ſmall Wares and Wood for Dying, as Logwood, *&c.*

The whole Trade of the River *Ems*, that runs thro' all *Weſtphalia*, is at *Emden*, a Town of vaſt Trade, well affected to the *United Provinces*. Beſides the Horſes and Oxen the *Dutch* bring from *Eaſt Friezland*; Hams, Timber, Woollen, Cloth, Linnen of ſeveral ſorts, (made by the Inhabitants of the Biſhopricks of *Munſter* and *Paderborn*) come down the River of *Ems* to *Emden*.

The Trade of the *Rhine* is one of the moſt Important the *Dutch* have; for beſides, that this River is Navigable almoſt every where from *Switzerland* (where it has its Source) to its falling into the *Holland* Seas; it takes along with its Stream (which is almoſt 300 Leagues in length) many large Rivers, of which the *Moſelle* and *Mein* are the moſt conſiderable. The many rich and fruitful Provinces that it waſhes, furniſh *Holland* with a vaſt Quantity of rich Merchandize, with which ſhe again, ſupplies other Countries.

Cologne, the moſt conſiderable of all the Towns on the *Rhine*, and long ſince celebrated for Commerce, is a Place of the principal Trade of that River, as well as of the *Moſelle*; 'tis the great Mart for Rheniſh Wines, which

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are there bought up for the *United Provinces*, where there is a prodigious Consumption of them.

The *Moselle*, which runs thro' all *Loraine* and the whole Electorate of *Triers*, falls into the *Rhine* at *Coblentz*, and unlades there vast Quantities of its Wines.

There comes down to *Cologne*, by these two Rivers, a great deal of excellent Oak. Besides Wine and Timber; the *Dutch* bring thence, Iron Cannons and Bullets, and send thither from *Holland* their own Manufactures of Silk and Woollen Stuffs, Spices, Sugar, Cheese, Herrings, and other Necessaries: These Goods are likewise disposed of to all the other Towns on the *Rhine* and *Moselle*; from whence come the same sort of Merchandize in Return, as from *Cologne*, tho' not in that abundance, or with so much conveniency.

The *Mein* that looses itself in the *Rhine* near *Mentz*, after having travers'd all *Franconia*, (one of the finest and most fertile Countries of all *Germany*,) has open'd a Way for a vast Trade in *Frankfort*, its Capital City, where there are two noted Fairs kept every Year; the *Dutch* come thither to buy Iron and Cutlers Ware (made at *Nuremberg*) Copper, and great Quantities of other Merchandize; and bring thither from their own Country, Silk, Cloth, small Wares, Ribands, Spices, Drugs, and all sorts of Wood for dying.

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In short, there is not a Town near the *Rhine* and the Rivers that flow into it, but consumes a World of Goods of the growth and Manufactury of *Holland*, in exchange of their own. The Dutchies of *Juliers* and *Berghs*, belonging to the Elector *Palatine*, furnish Flax, Thread, and Linnen, as do all the other Countries thereabout.

By the *Maese*, the *Dutch* carry on a great Trade, particularly with the Towns of *Liege* and *Aix la Chapelle*; the first is situated on that River, and the other not far off, but almost all the Trade of the *Meuse* is at *Liege*, where are sold Serges, Slate, Pit Coal, Iron and Steel Work, Bullets, Bombs, Granadoes, Arms, Lead, Brazier's Ware, made at *Aix la Chapelle*, (which has its Brass and Copper from *Holland* and *Liege*.) Into this last Town the *Dutch* bring all sorts of Merchandize made of Silk and Wool, Spices, and Drugs for the Surgeon and Apothecary.

The *Dutch* ever had a watchful Eye to preserve the Liberties of *Cologne*, and the Navigation of the *Rhine*: They have in like manner frequently protected the Liberties of *Hamburgh* against the Attempts of the Kings of *Denmark*; and those of *Bremen*, against the *Swede*; till some Reasons of State made them permit the last to fall under the Dominion of the Crown of *Sweden*. In short, they have always a particular Care not to suffer any new

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Cuſtoms or Impoſts to be laid on the Navigation of theſe five Rivers; by means of which they drive ſuch an advantagious Trade, and render themſelves ſo formidable; by theſe means, they have extended their Territories much beyond their uſual Limits, and have been for ſix Years together entire Maſters of the Electorate of *Cologne*, and Principality of *Liege*.

CHAP. VII.

Of the Trade of the Spaniſh Netherlands.

THIS Country heretofore, the Seat or Centre of a prodigious Trade, has now very little, by the great Application and Addreſs of the *Dutch*, and particularly the People of *Amſterdam*, to hinder even its recovery again in *Flanders*, eſpecially at *Antwerp*. In the Truce made in the Year 1609, the *Spaniards* would have oblig'd them to take off the Impoſts they laid on the Navigation of the *Scheld* and other Rivers during the War, which gave a great Blow to the Trade of the *Low Countries*; but the States General would never conſent to it, in hopes entirely to ruine the Com-

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Commerce of the *Low Countries* ſubject to the Crown of *Spain*, and draw it to themſelves.

When they made Peace with *Spain*, at the Treaty of *Munſter*, they took all imaginable Precautions leaſt Commerce ſhould be re-eſtabliſh'd at *Antwerp* thro' a long Peace; not doubting but the advantagious Situation of that City for Trade, would once again revive it, if not timely obſtructed: They ſtipulated then that they ſhould keep the *Scheld* block'd up, that all Merchandize that went up that River ſhould pay certain Cuſtoms at the Fort of *Ryſſel*, and that Ships and large Veſſels ſhould paſs no further, but unlade their Goods into Boats and ſmall Barks, to carry them to *Antwerp*.

They had no Apprehenſion that Trade ſhould ever flouriſh again at *Bruges* or *Ghent*, ſince they were Maſters of the Canals of Communication of *Sluice* and *Sas Van Ghent*, to the very Sea.

I am very well ſatisfy'd the *Dutch* would never have conſented to a Peace with *Spain*, how advantagious ſoever it might be, had they not ſeen it in their Power to hinder the re-eſtabliſhment of Commerce in *Flanders*.

The Trade the *Dutch* drive in *Flanders* and *Brabant*, (both in Obedience to the King of *Spain*,) is principally eſtabliſh'd at *Antwerp*, *Ghent*, *Bruges*, and *Mechlin*: The chief Commodities they deal for in theſe Provinces, eſ-

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pecially in the Towns of *Antwerp*, *Bruſſels*, and *Mechlin*, are Thread, and Lace, which they make with that admirable Beauty and large Quantities, as is almoſt incredible.

From *Ghent* and *Bruges* they fetch a vaſt Quantity of fine Linnen of all ſorts, as well for the Table, as other uſes: The firſt of theſe is famous for Serges, the other for Sheeps Leather; *Bruſſels* and *Audenarde* for Tapeſtry, where a long while ſince began thoſe excellent Manufactures that gave Birth to thoſe of the Gobelins in *Paris*, which for many Years paſt has been, and now is, the moſt famous Work-houſe in the World.

To theſe Towns they ſend their own Manufactures of Stuffs made of Silk and Wool, Spices, Drugs, Coffee, Tea, Chocolate, and a great Quantity of Muſlins, and *Indian* Stuffs of all ſorts.

To this one may add, the Trade they have with *Liſle*, *Tournay* and *Mons*, of which they have made themſelves Maſters by the Force of their Arms, and thoſe of the High Allies; the Trade of *Liſle* conſiſts chiefly in a ſort of Linnen called there *Toiles Baptiſte*, and *Baracans*, or coarſe Camblets.

The *Dutch*, in ſhort, are Maſters of all the Trade of the *Low Countries*, and that with all the Liberty, Authority, and Eaſe imaginable, by reaſon of their bordering on thoſe Provinces, and the Advantage they have

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of the Rivers and Canals that run by, and thro' all the Principal Towns, and wonderfully facilitate the Carriage of all sorts of Goods from one to another, with great Expedition and very little Expence.

CHAP. VIII.

Of the Trade with England.

THE Neighbourhood of these two Nations has for many Years since establish'd a mutual Commerce between them; but it has sometimes been interrupted: In the Usurpation of *Cromwel*, the Parliament made a Law prohibiting every Nation to bring into *England* any Goods or Merchandizes but what were of their own Growth and Manufactury.

This Prohibition was principally levelled at the *Dutch*, whose Country produc'd very little that *England* had Occasion for, and had not then any thing like the Manufactures they have at this Day. But at that time, it was thought prudent not to let those People grow too great, or rival *England* in Trade. However the *English*, I believe, were not over severe in relation to the Importation of Spices from *Holland*, the *Dutch* being Masters of

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them, and which could not be had but thro' their means. The *Dutch* on the contrary, permitted the *Engliſh* to bring into their Ports all ſort of Goods, whether they were of the Growth of *England*, or not.

The *Engliſh* bring into *Holland* their Woollen Cloths of their own Manufactury, and other Stuffs, both of Wool and Silk, Tin, Lead, Vitriol, Pitcoal, *Virginia* Tobacco, *Barbadoes* Sugar, and other Sugars of *America*.

The Woollen Manufactures that come from *England* into *Holland*, are the chief Article of that Trade, their Stuffs ſell readily; Strangers, and particularly the *Germans*, come to buy them: At firſt, the *Engliſh* kept their Store-Houſe for Cloth at *Middlebourg* in *Zealand*, then at *Delft*, after that at *Rotterdam*, and now at *Dort*, the Magiſtrates having granted them Privileges for that very Purpoſe: There are certain Days when they open their Stores to every Body, but they generally open them when they have receiv'd a conſiderable Quantity of Cloth, and they give Notice ſome time before by Circular Letters.

Lead and Tin which the *Engliſh* carry to *Holland*, next to their Cloth and Stuffs, make the moſt conſiderable Article.

The Trade of the *Engliſh* with the *Dutch*, is carried on by the *Meuſe*, the Paſſage from *England* being very eaſy, but I believe their Goods ſell beſt at *Amſterdam*; they take from the *Dutch*

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Dutch their fine Linnens in Payment, and Canvis for Sails, as alſo great Quantities of Paper, ſince that Republick has ſet up that Manufactury, and a great Quantity of Silks of their making, eſpecially when the *Engliſh* prohibited Trade with *France*.

The *Scotch* ſince the Year 1612, have ſet up a Glaſs-Houſe in *Zealand*, where they make Glaſs much after the *Engliſh* Way; they bring thither great Quantities of Coal, but not near ſo good as the *Engliſh*; ſeveral Woollen Stuffs of their own Manufactury, and particularly Worſted Stockings; and if I am not miſtaken a great deal of Ox and Cow Hides, Calves and Sheeps Leather, Dogs and Rabbits Skins, as alſo Lead and Tallow.

The *Iriſh* have no Store-Houſes in all *Holland*, their greateſt Trade is from *Dublin*, *Cork* and *Waterford*, where they Tranſport to *Holland* pickled Beef in Barrels, Butter, Tallow, Bulls and Cows Hides, Freezes, and other Woollen Stuffs.

The abſolute Neceſſity that the *Dutch* have of the *Engliſh* Ports on the Channel, is one of the principal Reaſons that makes them ſuffer that great Inequality in the reſpective Liberty of the Trade between the two Nations, and to ſuit themſelves to the Laws the *Engliſh* have made, in relation thereto.

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CHAP. IX.

Of the Trade with France.

THE Trade the *Dutch* have with *France* ſince the Eſtabliſhment of their Republick, has been very conſiderable in reſpect of the Number, Quantity and Quality of the Merchandize they bring thither, and carry thence every Year. That which *France* furniſhes them with, are equally neceſſary to them for their own Subſiſtence and their keeping up their Trade with other Nations.

The Principal Things they have from *France*, are Corn of all kinds, when the Years are good, Wines of all ſorts, particularly thoſe of *Grave*, *Champagne* and *Burgundy*, Honey, Saffron, large and ſmall Cheſnuts, Hazel Nuts, Turpentine, Rozin, Crayons, Verdugreaſe, Soap, Wax, Cork, Carduus; to theſe may be added, Silks, Taffaties, Gold and Silver Tiſſues, Stuffs of Amiens, Chalons and Rheims, Paper, Parchment, Hats, Small Wares, and Iron Ware, both ſmall and great, and a world of other Goods which are (as they call them) the Merchandize of *Paris*, as Belts, Girdles, Combs, Looking-glaſſes, Trinkets, Toys, Gloves, and Head-dreſſes.

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All these different sorts of Commodities are sent by the *Dutch* into all the Provinces of the *North*, *Germany*, the *Low Countries*, *Spain* and *Portugal*, *Italy*, the *Levant*, the Coasts of *Africa*, and even the *Indies*. In short to all the Climates of the World, where these famous Merchants have carried and extended their Traffick.

They furnish the *French* in Return with all sorts of Spices, Cloth, Drugs, as well for Medicines as Painting; all sorts of Woods for Dying; all sorts of Linnen Cloth, *&c.* They bring from the North, Copper, Steel, Brass Wire, tin'd Plates, or white Iron, Cannons, Muskets, and other Arms, Gunpowder, Sulphur, Matches, *Russia* Leather, Furrs, Flax, Hemp, Pitch and Tar, Masts, Planks, and other Timber for building Ships or Houses; to these may be added Herrings, and other Salt Fish, Butter, Cheese, Tallow, and a great Quantity of other Merchandize, to specify which, would be very difficult and tedious.

The Advantage and Benefit *France* has found by that Trade, and the Reasons of State which united her to this Republick against the House of *Austria*, have made her favour such Commerce in several Treaties with the States, and granted them many Privileges; this together with the Neighbourhood of the two Nations, made the *French* Trade very easy to the *Dutch*; besides, the *French* being

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unskill'd in the Art of Navigation, the *Dutch* only were employ'd in making trading Voyages to all Parts, this filled the *French* Ports continually with *Dutch* Veſſels, which ever were taking off their Superfluities, and the Vent of their Commodities, eſpecially Stuffs and other home Manufactures was very great, and encreaſed in proportion as the *Dutch* had Liberty to come into their Ports and Harbours; this made the *French* Trade flouriſh very much, and gave a Value to their Manufactures.

The good underſtanding between the two Nations began to leſſen, when the Treaty of *Munſter* was on Foot, and as the *French* at that time thought they had reaſon to be diſpleaſed with the *Dutch*, they refuſed to renew the ancient Treaties of Commerce.

They let their Pirates diſturb their Mediteranian Trade, which made People believe a War would have enſued at that time between the two Nations; and the *French* made them believe they would prohibit all *Dutch* Merchandize, at leaſt lay new Duties on what ſhould come into their Ports. Monſieur *Boreel*, who was then their Ambaſſador in *France*, repreſented boldly to that Court, that other People would be oblig'd in like manner, to lay new Duties on all *French* Goods, which would infallibly very much diminiſh their Conſumption, and conſequently be of Prejudice to that Kingdom. The *French* pretended to be ignorant

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(or perhaps were really so) of the vast Quantities of their Merchandize that went out of their Country to Foreign Parts, and told him roundly that the thing was not so considerable as he represented it to them, and that it was only the Interest of his Country made him talk after that manner.

To undeceive them, that Gentleman made it appear to the Court that their Republick expended every Year above thirty five Millions of *Livres* in *French* Commodies.

This is the Account taken out of the Registers of their Custom-House, in the Year 1659, *and which that Ambassador gave in to the* French *Court.*

	Livres.
IN Cloths, Velvets, Sattins, Gold and Silver Tissues, Taffaties of *Lyons*, *Tons*, and *Paris*, above six Millions.	6000000
Silk Ribbons, Silk and Thread Laces, Buttons, tag Laces made at *Paris* and *Roan*, and the Towns thereabouts.	2000000
Castors, Vigones, Caudebeos, or Hats of *Paris* and *Roan.*	1500000
Paris Pendulums and Watches, and such like Goods, two Millions.	2000000
Gloves from *Paris*, *Roan*, and *Vendome*, above.	1500000

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	Livres.
Worsted Spun in *Picardy*, above	1500000
Paper of all sorts, *viz. Auvergne, Limosin, Poitou, Champagne* and *Normandy*.	2000000
Pins and Needles made at *Paris* and in *Normandy*, Ebony Box, and Ivory Combs.	5000000
Small Iron and Steel Ware from *Auvorgue*.	5000000
Linnen from *Normandy*, and *Britany*.	5000000
Chamber Furniture, as Beds, Quilts, Canopies, Blankets, Silk Fringes.	5000000
Wines of *Bourdeaux, Gascony, Xaintonge, Orleans, Anjou, Nantz, &c.*	5000000
Brandies and Vinegars	1500000
Saffron, Soap, Honey, Almonds, Olives, Capers, Prunes, *&c.*	2000000
Monsieur *Boreel* added, that besides, this 5 or 600 Vessels, every Year came laden from *Rochelle, Marans, Brouage*, the Isles of *Ree* and *Oloron*, which he did not reckon, no more than vast Quantity of Wheat and other Corn, and Hemp which they transported to *Holland*, in plentiful Years, and often amounted to six Millions.	6000000

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This Repreſentation and other Politick Reaſons (which is not my Buſineſs to meddle with) made the *French* change their Stile, and there was no more Talk of new Duties and Impoſts. In ſhort, after long Diſputes upon the new Duty of Freight of 50 Sols *per* Tun, the *French* in the Year 1662, ſigned a Treaty of Commerce with the States General, and which was to be a laſting one. This Treaty made both the *Dutch* and *French* Merchants hope, that a Commerce ſo very uſeful and advantagious to the two Nations would be conſiderably augmented; but their Hopes were fruſtrated, and they ſaw with Sorrow it ſenſibly leſſened in the Year 1667, when the *French* encreaſed the Duties on Foreign Merchandize, without having any manner of Regard to the Treaty of 1662. They had for ſome Years, it ſeems, entertain'd a Notion that they could carry on a Trade after a new unheard of Method, They pretended to ſell their Goods to their Neighbours, and buy none of theirs.

It muſt be allow'd, a finer Project never could be invented to fill *France* with Gold and Silver; I call it a fine, not pernicious Project, but it has been found by unhappy Experience, it was altogether impracticable.

To put this Project in Execution, the firſt thing they did was to ſet up an *Eaſt India* Company, as alſo others for the *Levant* and Nor-

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Northern Trade, in order to furniſh themſelves with ſuch Merchandize of thoſe Countries as they ſhould have Occaſion of, and in Return, with what might be neceſſary for their Uſe without having recourſe to Strangers.

To quit themſelves entirely of Foreign Aſſiſtance, they began to ſet up in *France* the Manufacturies of other Countries, imagining at the ſame time, thoſe other Countries could not be without *French* Goods and Proviſions, and that they would take off the ſame Quantities as uſual, and by conſequence would be oblig'd to pay ready Money when they ſaw the *French* take no more of theirs in Return: 'Twas on this View that in the Year 1667 the *French* laid new Duties on Foreign Goods, eſpecially Manufactures, which conſequently made them much dearer than their own, and was done, with intent to make the People prefer their own to Foreign Manufactures.

The *Dutch* ſeeing themſelves attackt in the moſt ſenſible Part, ſo well travers'd this new Eſtabliſhment of the *French* Companies, that at laſt they fell of themſelves. They forgot nothing that might ruine the Manufactures of *France*, they ſet up for making themſelves thoſe very Goods they uſed to have from *France*, and ſold them much cheaper than the *French* could do; Reaſons of State joined to thoſe of Trade, and the Enmity of both Parties

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Parties to each other, broke out at last into an open War, which was properly speaking a Trade War. The Conduct of the *Dutch* during the Treaty of *Aix la Chapelle*, the Triple Alliance made afterwards with *England* and *Sweden* for the Preservation of the rest of the *Spanish Low Countries*, and their Gasconading Language made the King resolve they should feel his Resentment. To humble this Republick, it was thought nothing would go so far as the ruining their Trade, by laying still new Duties on such Merchandize as should be brought into *France*, or else entirely to prohibit it.

The States-General try'd all ways to engage the *French* to regulate their Duties upon Entries by the Tariff made in the Year 1664. and to execute the Treaty of Commerce of the Year 1662; but finding they could do nothing, they began to fight the *French* with their own Weapons; that is, they prohibited all *French* Wines and Brandies entring their Ports, and laid new Duties upon all Goods of the *French* Manufactury; and the Provisions and other Merchandize that a long time before they us'd continually to have from *France*, they then bought and dealt for from other Parts; the *French* soon perceived a very great Diminution of their Commerce: The War coming on between *France* and *Holland* in the Year 1672, Trade on both sides was entirely prohibited. However,

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However, Monſieur *Colbert* happily foreſeeing, that 'twould be a very difficult Matter for *France* to continue long a War (wherein probably all *Europe* might be engag'd againſt her) if no Body took off her Goods and Merchandizes, gave Paſſports to every one that would come and trade thither; and to this wiſe and ſage Conduct, may be juſtly attributed good part of the happy Succeſs which afterwards attended that Kingdom.

That War ending by the Treaty of *Nimeguen*, which was concluded the 10th of *Auguſt* 1678. the very ſame Day a new Treaty of Commerce was ſtruck up, in which it was agreed, that the *French* and *Dutch* ſhould enjoy reciprocally the ſame Liberty, in reſpect of Commerce and Navigation, in each other's Dominions, as they did before the beginning of that War. In Conſequence of this Treaty, the Tariff of 1667 was entirely aboliſh'd in favour of the *Dutch*; and that of 1664 was ſet up in its ſtead, generally for all ſorts of Goods whatſoever, that they ſhould bring into that Kingdom, or export thence. One would have thought that this would have eſtabliſh'd a laſting Commerce between the two Nations. However, in the beginning of the Year 1680, the *French* Proviſions and other Goods, eſpecially Silks, bore no Price at *Amſterdam*; and thoſe that traded thither were very ſenſible, that oftentimes they rather loſt than gain'd,

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as I have elsewhere observ'd: So true is it, that Commerce once destroy'd, never again recovers it self. Those Gentlemen who had the Management of Affairs after the Death of Monsieur *Colbert*, without having any manner of regard to this last Treaty, set up the Tariff of 1667, and considerably augmented the Duties, in hopes to augment the Sale of their own Manufactures. The *Dutch* seeing their Commerce continually attack'd in such open manner, and that they had no hopes of re-establishing Matters on the ancient Footing, apply'd themselves more than ever, with all Care and Diligence, to put themselves in that Condition, as never more to have occasion of the *French* Manufactures; and they succeeded so well in this last Article, that they set up amongst themselves those very Manufacturies; as, the making Silks, Gold and Silver Brocades, Hats, Paper, Ribands, and Laces, &c. And the *French*, since that time, have found to their no small Detriment, a prodigious Decrease of their Trade in these several Articles. I believe it may very truly be said, that these Trade-Quarrels were partly the Cause of the Wars breaking out again, between *France* and the *United Provinces*, in the Year 1690. The Declaration of this War was followed by the most severe and longest Prohibition of Commerce that ever was known, and has hitherto continu'd; and 'tis to be fear'd, will only make

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make the *Dutch* know, they can very eaſily let the *French* Proviſions alone. Time will make it appear, whether after the Peace, the *Dutch* will reſort to the Ports of *France* with ſuch Numbers of Merchants-Ships as before; and we ſhall ſee whether they will take off ſuch vaſt Quantities of Proviſions, and Goods of the *French* Manufacture, as in times paſt; 'tis much to be wiſh'd they would, as well for the Benefit of Commerce, as the Good of the State.

CHAP. X.

Of the Trade with Spain.

NOtwithſtanding the Revolt of the *Dutch* from *Spain*, *Philip* the Second pretended he knew nothing of their Trading in his Dominions, under the Colours of his Allies; and tho' he ſaw very well, that ſuch Trading muſt inevitably furniſh them wherewith to maintain their Revolt, yet he did not think it worth his while to deprive them of it. It was the general Opinion, that that Prince acted after that manner, becauſe he had occaſion for the Merchandize of the North to equip his Fleets, and which he could have no other way but by means of the *Dutch*.

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it was believ'd he was likewise afraid, that if he should shut them out of the *Spanish* Ports, they would, being very powerful at Sea, open themselves a Way into the New World. However, notwithstanding this Connivance of that Monarch, the *Spaniards* in time treated the *Dutch* Merchants, that traded to *Spain*, with such Cruelty, and laid on them such heavy Duties, that they were forc'd to leave off trading thither, as well as to *Portugal*, which then was subject to *Philip*. The Merchants and Seamen that were employ'd in that Trade, after it thus expired, took a Resolution to look out for those Goods in *Asia*, *Africa*, and *America*, which they used to have from *Seville* and *Lisbon*; and this was one of the principal Causes of the Rise of that Republick, and the Decay of the *Spanish* Monarchy.

Philip the Third, having succeeded his Father, *Philip* the Second, in the Month of *September*, 1598. seeing plainly that all Endeavours that were used to bring the *Dutch* to a Peace, proved ineffectual, resolved to forbid them all manner of Trade whatsoever with his Subjects, hoping that by taking away that which supported them to that time in their War, they would have no mind to continue it, when they should see themselves depriv'd of such Support. It was visible, that all the Riches of *Holland* were the Effects of their Navigation and Trade, and that their greatest Traffick

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was with *Spain*, whither they not only carried the Merchandize of their own State, but Corn from *Poland* and other Northern Countries, that they might in Exchange carry home vaſt Quantities of Gold and Silver.

Philip the Third executed his Edict with a great deal of Severity; a very exact Search was made all over *Spain* for *Dutch* Merchants and Sailors; ſome of which were condemn'd to perpetual Impriſonment and the Gallies; others were cruelly put to Death by ſeveral kinds of Tortures. This Interdiction of Commerce was likewiſe publiſhed in the *Low Countries*, in the Name of the Princeſs *Iſabella*, who was at that time their Sovereign.

The States General, on the other hand, were not contented with barely prohibiting all Commerce with *Spain*, they likewiſe forbid all other Nations bringing into their Country any Proviſions, or other Commodities whatſoever, from *Spain*, declaring, that all that did ſo ſhould be eſteemed *Spaniſh* Partiſans, and be treated as Enemies. A Copy of this Declaration of the States-General was ſent to all Princes, that they might not pretend Ignorance.

France came into the *Dutch* Scheme, and declared, that if after 6 Months any of her Subjects ſhould trade with *Spain*, they would, in ſo doing, expoſe themſelves to ſuch Inconveniencies, as the Crown would not concern

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it self to remedy; and the other Powers likewise acquiesced to this bold Declaration.

Notwithstanding these severe Prohibitions of the *Spaniards*, the *Dutch*, as before, traded to all the *Spanish* Countries, by means of Passports, the *Spaniards* themselves gave them for Money, which they often wanted to carry on their Affairs. In short, the Truce of twelve Years was concluded between *Spain* and the *United Provinces* in the Year 1609, and by it the Freedom of Trade was re-established between the two Nations; and amongst other things it was agreed, That the Traders of each Nation should pay no greater Duties, than the Inhabitants or Allies of such Nations who paid the lowest Customs; and that the *Dutch* might be secured from apprehending any thing from the Inquisition, it was agreed, that they should enjoy the same Liberty as was stipulated to the *English* some time before, in the Articles of the Treaty of *Velasco*, which the Constable of *Castila* had made with the Crowns of *Spain* and *England*.

The War that was revived in the Year 1621, after the Expiration of that Truce, interrupted the Trade of both Nations till the Year 1648, when they concluded a perpetual Peace at *Munster*; and from that time the Trade the *Dutch* drove with *Spain* became much more considerable than ever, by reason of those Privileges that Crown yielded to them

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in that Treaty. Those great Advantages they offered the United Provinces, was one of the principal Means they made use of to draw the States from the *French* Interest, and to make a Separate Peace with them, and which in Effect, was the saving of that Monarchy.

The *Dutch* Trade with *Spain* continued from that time till now, that is, till the breaking out of this present War, which began in the Year 1701, on Account of the Partition Treaty which was designed to exclude *Philip* V. the present King, from succeeding *Charles* II. whose lawful Heir and Successor he was. It is worth while to observe, how Reasons of State have united these two Nations, the most averse to each other in the World, and whose hatred especially that of the *Spaniards* seemed irreconcilable.

The *Spaniards* favour'd the *Dutch* in their Trade as much as they possibly could, particularly since the Year 1667, in hopes to have ruined that of the *French*, and they were not unsuccessful in that respect; but the *Dutch* Trade never flourish'd so much in *Spain* as since the War between *France* and *Holland*, begun in the Year 1672, to the beginning of this present War; for they not only furnish the *Spaniards* with such Goods as they used to have from *France*, but furnish themselves likewise from *Spain* with what *France* used to supply

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ply them with before the several Wars of 1672, and 1690.

The *Dutch* traded very much to all those Places that were subject to *Spain*, as *Flanders* and *Brabant*, &c. before this present War, and which she has now lost, as well as those which the *French* lost some time after, that is to say, during the three last Campaigns: But their chief Trade of all was that of *Cadiz* and in the Mediterranean. 'Tis in that famous Port of *Spain*, where the Galleons are equipt out for *Peru*, and the *Flotilla* for *Mexico* and *New Spain*, and which return thither with their rich lading from those Empires, and bring almost all the Gold and Silver we see in *Europe*; however, tho' the *Spaniards* are the Masters of those Countries where Gold and Silver grow in such abundance, yet it is very true that they have less of either than those Nations that Trade with them, which shews that Mines of Gold and Silver contribute much less to the enriching of a Country than Trade and Commerce.

What follows, is a true Account of the Goods and Merchandize the *Dutch* used to carry into *Spain* and bring thence, before the last Rupture.

That which they imported consisted chiefly of Linnen of all sorts, Woollen Stuffs, a great Number of Silks, Gold and Silver Stuffs,

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Drugs, Spices, small Iron Wares, Masts and Timber.

The Linnen brought into *Spain* by Foreigners, ever was look'd on as the most considerable Article of that Trade, by reason of its vast Consumption both in *Spain* and *America*; the *French* furnish'd the *Spaniards* a long time with this Commodity; I believe I should not exceed the Truth, by affirming that this only Article of the *French* Commerce amounted every Year to about eight Millions of Livres.

The Linnens that the *Dutch* bring into *Spain*, are generally of the finest sort that are made in *Overissel*, and about *Douay* and *Valenciennes*; they sell them in *Spain* by the Name of *Lawns* and *Cambricks*; they vend likewise a certain kind of Linnen, call'd *Perseilles* and *Brabant*; it is very broad and coarse, and serves the poorer sort of People, to wrap up Goods in: Besides this, they sell a World of fine and coarse Callico stain'd in *Holland* with all sorts of Colours, which they make Use of both in *Spain* and *America*, for Lining of Cloaths: I pass by many other sorts of Linnen of less Note, which the *Dutch* bring into *Spain* in time of Peace, as well as Table Linnen, Tapes and Filletings, both white and coloured.

Their Woollen Stuffs are Drabs and Serges, Camlets of all sorts, fine and coarse; these Stuffs

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Stuffs are all of their own Manufactures, as well as what they call black *Anacostes*.

Tho' this Article may appear very considerable, yet the *Dutch* bring into *Spain* other Goods of a far greater Value; the several sorts of Silks which they bring in vast Quantities amount to prodigious Sums. The *Spaniards* used formerly to buy their Silks from the *French*, but since the Establishment of these sorts of Manufactures in *Holland*, the *French* have entirely lost that rich Commerce as well as that of Gold and Silver Brocades, which the *Dutch* sell much cheaper. 'Tis true, these rich Stuffs at first were neither so well made, nor so beautified as those made in *France*, but they are now come to that Perfection in *Holland*, that there is but very little Difference. The *Dutch* and they only furnish *Spain* with Cinnamon, Cloves and Nutmegs, and such like Spices; they serve them likewise with Pepper, but the *English* share with them in that Trade. I have been assur'd, that one third Part of the Cinnamon that the *Dutch* have from the *East Indies*, is consumed in *Spain* and *America*, especially in *Peru*, where their Chocolate makes a vast Consumption.

The *Dutch* likewise dispose of in *Spain*, a considerable Quantity of Drugs from the *Levant*, both for the Apothecary and Painters Use.

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I pass over the Article of Musk, Civet, Ambergrease, &c. which amount to no small Sum: They carry also into *Spain* small Iron Ware work'd at *Nuremberg*, *Frankfort* and *Liege*, Steel and Copper-work from *Sweden*, Leather from *Denmark*, and *Russia* Leather for Chairs and Coaches; great Quantities of Paper and Cards which they used to have from *France*, White and Yellow Wax. This last Article is so considerable, that it is believed to exceed four Millions of Livres, as well by the *Dutch* Accounts as those of other Nations that Trade thither. The *Spaniards*, especially those that live in the *Indies*, consume prodigious Quantities, their chief Delight being to illuminate their Churches Sundays and Holydays.

In the time of Peace the *Spaniards* have from *Holland* Planks, Masts, Cordage, Pitch and Tar, and almost every thing that is necessary for Shipping, besides all sorts of Ammunition and Provisions, as Herrings, Salmon, Butter, Cheese, and Corn (when there is a scarce Year, as it often happens in *Spain*) I must not forget Timber for building, nor that sort of Wood they make Pipes, Barrels and Casks of to carry their Wine and Oil in, to *America*. These are the principal Commodities the *Dutch* bring into *Spain*, and which they will again undoubtedly continue to do after the Conclusion of the approaching Peace.

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One might add to these the Negro Trade, which Slaves their *East India* Company furnishes the *Spaniards* with for *America*; and this makes no inconsiderable Article in the *Dutch* Trade.

All these Commodities (very few excepted) are equally proper for *Spain* and *America*; but the greatest part is sent into the New World, and *Peru* alone makes a greater Consumption than all *Mexico*.

'It must be observ'd as a Matter of Importance, that only the *Spaniards* can Trade to the *West Indies*, and that all Nations else are forbidden on Pain of Death to trade thither, either directly or indirectly.' However, by means even of the *Spaniards* themselves, they have found out the Secret to send to those Parts all sorts of Merchandize on their own Account; the Method is to find out some *Spaniard* of Worth and Probity, and entrust him privately to sell your Goods in the *Indies* in his Name, who will certainly do it for you, and return you faithfully your Profits.

This indirect Way of Trading to *America* is very frequent in *Spain*, and it was scarce ever known that a *Spaniard* betray'd his Trust.

The Court of *Madrid* is not unacquainted with these Practices, but Policy makes her connive at them. The *Dutch* have likewise found out the Way of Trading thither secretly

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rectly, or indeed to ſpeak better, directly by the way of the Iſland *Curazao*, which lies not far from the Town of *Cartagena*, the Merchants of that famous Place, and thoſe of the other Towns along the Maritime Coaſts, have a very good Underſtanding with the *Dutch* whom they furniſh with the Merchandize of the Country, and carry their Goods even a-board their Veſſels while they lie at Anchor in ſome convenient Place near the Coaſt; and in exchange receive from them the Merchandize of *Europe*.

The Trade between the new World and *Spain* is carried on by the Galleons and Flotilla: There are beſides ſome few Veſſels, but thoſe are but inconſiderable.

The Galleons are deſign'd, as I hinted before, entirely for the Commerce of *Peru*, which is by far the richeſt, and the *Flotilla* for that of *Mexico*. The Galleons may ſail from *Cadiz* at any time, but the Flotilla is oblig'd to depart in the Month of *Auguſt*, to avoid the Stormy Winds that are very rife in the Gulf of *Mexico*, during the Month of *September*.

Theſe two Fleets keep the ſame way till they come to the Iſlands of *Antilles*; thence the Galleons continue their Courſe till they come to *Cartagena*, and at laſt to *Portobello*, where is kept the famous Fair between the Merchants of *Peru* and *Spain*.

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The *Flotilla* on the contrary, takes its Course towards the North, and passing betwen the Islands of *Cuba* and *Jamaica*, arrives at the Port of *Vera Cruz*.

In coming back, the Galleons and Flotilla must meet and anchor at the *Havana*, a very famous Port in the Isle of *Cuba*; then they sail together thro' the Canal of *Bahama*, and keeping still in sight of Land, direct their Course Northward as far as the *Azores*, and touch at those Islands whence they sail directly down to *Cadiz*.

And now I am treating of the Commerce of *Spain*, it will not be amiss if I give some particular Account of that Part of it, which has relation to *America*.

What else the *Dutch* and other Nations furnish the *Spaniards* with, is paid for in Money by the Merchants of *America*, as well as of those of *Spain*.

The chief Merchandize of *America* is Gold and Silver, Pearls, Emeralds, Cochinele, Indigo, that which the *French* call Laine de *Vigogne*, Quinquina, Cocoa, Vanilles, Tobacco, Leather, Wood of *Campechy*, and other considerable Commodities.

The Gold and Silver come to *Spain* by the the Galleons and Flotilla; but the Galleons as I said before, being design'd only for *Peru*, bring greater Quantities; 'tis chiefly from the Mountain of *Potosi*, in the Province of *Che-*

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Chereaſſa, that almoſt all the Silver comes that is ſeen in all the Parts of *Europe*, *Aſia*, and the Coaſts of *Africa*; and the *Spaniſh* Pieces of Eight are no leſs known and ſought after in *China*, and all the Eaſt (except *Japan*, where there are a great many Mines of Silver) than in all the Countries of *Europe*; that which comes to us from *New Spain*, is dug out of the Mines of *St. Lewis de Zacatecas*, ſome Leagues from *Mexico*, the Capital City of that Empire.

Peru, *Chili*, and the new Kingdom of *Grenada*, are the three Countries that produce the moſt Gold.

Theſe are the ſeveral Mines of theſe two valuable Mettals, and where every Day they make new Diſcoveries, which makes all the Nations of *Europe* ſo eager to Trade with the *Spaniards*; in reality this Commerce is the moſt profitable, the Returns being always in Gold and Silver.

Pearls, Emeralds, Quinquina, and Laines de Vigogne come with the Galleons.

For the moſt part they fiſh for Pearls, near the *Terra Firma*.

The Mines of Emeralds are near *Santa Fe de Bagota*, in *New Granada*.

Laines de Vigogne, come from *Potoſi*.

Quinquina, from the Province of *Quillio*, which is likewiſe in *Peru*.

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Cochineal, Indigo, Cocoa, Vanilles, and the Wood of *Campechy*, generally from *New Spain* or *Mexico*. The Province of *Guatimala* affords the best Cochineal, which they call there *Meteq*, and is the best and dearest of all. There is a prodigious Quantity consumed all over *Europe*, in Dying Scarlet.

There is no less a Consumption of Indigo or Dying Blues; the best, if I mistake not, comes from *Guatimala*.

The Wood of *Campechy*, which is used in Dying Blacks, comes from *Jabatan*; Cocoa and Varnilles are two Fruits, with which they make Chocolate; the first comes generally from the Island *Curazao*, *Miracuebo*, and *Gayaquil*, upon the Coasts of *Terra Firma*, and the other from *Ducapello* and *Mexico*, on the Coasts of the South-Sea.

The Tobacco we have from *Spain*, comes from *Vernia*, *Miracuebo*, the *Havana*, and St. *Domingo*; I think that which comes from the *Havana* is best to make Snuff of, the other to Smoak.

Their Leather comes generally from *Mexico*, the Islands of St. *Domingo*, the *Havana*, *Curazao*, and *Buenos Aires*, and is by much the best of any, and most valuable.

Tobacco and Leather make a great Article in the *Spanish* Trade, and the *Dutch* take off vast Quantities.

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I take no Notice of Sarsaparilla, the Root Contrayerva, the Balsom of *Peru*, and other small Articles that come to us from the New World.

The principal Merchandise of their own Growth, that the *Spaniards* furnish these Countries with, are Wooll, Wines, Fruits, Oils, Soap, Salt, Soude or Kalt, Iron and Steel.

The *Spanish* Woull was ever in high Esteem on Account of its Fineness and Excellency; there is however, great Difference, the best coming from the Provinces of *Andalusia*, *Valentia*, *Castile*, *Arragon* and *Biscay*.

The *Dutch*, when they have a free Trade with *Spain*, take off vast Quantities, it being absolutely necessary in their Manufactures of Cloth. The *French*, *Italians*, and even the *English* themselves lay out considerable Sums in this Commodity; so that it may truly be said, that the *Spanish* Wool is the greatest Article in their Trade on this side.

The Southern Parts of this Kingdom produce great Quantities of excellent Red and White Wines; the chief Ports where these Wines are shipp'd off to Foreign Parts, are *Alicant* and *Malaga*, in the Mediterranean: Much more Red than White comes from Port St. *Mary*, Port *Real*, St. *Lucar*, and *Rosa*, in the Bay of *Cadiz*; but the greatest Part of the Wines that grow about that Bay, are White, and are commonly call'd *Xeres* Wines.

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The *Dutch* lay out large Sums in these Wines, as well as in Canary and Brandies, since they bought none of the *French*. The *Spaniards*, since this War, have sold much more Wine than before; for whereas during the Peace, in the Year 1691, the Duties run only for 30000 Buts, they have since risen to 160000.

The *Dutch* take off likewise abundance of Olives from the Island of *Majorca*, as well as from *Sevil* and *Malaga*, besides great Quantities of Figs, Raisins, Almonds, and other dried Fruits. I have been well informed, that there is scarce a Year, but they lade five or six Ships with these Goods, including Oranges, Limons and Capers.

The Soaps of *Alicant* and *Carthagena* are always esteem'd the best of any. Soude or Kalt, which is an Herb that turns to a kind of Stone, after being burnt, and which is used in making Soap and Glass, grows in large Quantities on the Coasts of the Kingdoms of *Valencia* and *Murcia*, and Foreigners take off a great deal from both Places.

The *Dutch* were wont to lay out great Sums with the *Spaniards*, for Iron and *Spanish* Salt; there is a world of this Salt all round about the Bay of *Cadiz*, and the Island of *Iva*. Iron is the Product of *Biscay* and *Navarre*; and as there is no better in *Europe*, so for that very Reason there is every Year a great Consumption of this necessary Metal.

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The *Dutch* every Year employ in the *Cadiz* Trade about thirty Sail of Ships, besides those that unlade themselves at that Port, and continue their Course to the Streights.

They tell you, that at the times of the Departure and Arrival of the Galleons, the Number of the *Dutch* Vessels, that trade to *Cadiz*, commonly encreases to 15 or 20.

The Ships that Trade to *Cadiz* (except those laden with Corn) go always without Convoy, tho' their Artillery and Lading be very considerable, which makes other Nations often put their Goods aboard these Vessels, as well for Safety as Cheapness of Freight.

They pretend that the *Dutch* receive every Return of the Flotilla and Galleons about five Millions for Goods sent to the *Indies*, and reap upon as much for those sold at *Cadiz*; add to this the indirect Trade to *America*, actually carried on by the Way of *Curazao*, an Article of no little Consequence.

I have only one Word more to say, and that is in relation to the Trade the *Dutch* carry on with the Northern Parts of *Spain*: They come into every Port, but the Traders of *Bilboa* and *St. Sebastian* are they that deal most with the *Dutch*; the Port of the former is the most considerable, being the Magazine of the Provinces of *Old Castille* and *Leon*; this Town by its Commerce furnishes these two Provinces with Woollen Stuffs,

Silks,

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Silks, Lace, Ribands, Hats, Paper, Small Wares and Iron Work, brought thither by the *Dutch*; who likewise bring all things necessary for Shipping, Salt and Corn, of which they consume great Quantities in those Places, as well as in other Provinces on the Sea Coast.

They bring much the same Goods to *St. Sebastian* as *Bilbao*, which are again sent into *Navarre*, the Country of *Guipuscoa*, the *Asturias*, *&c.*

From all this side of the Country the Commodities to be Exported are Wool from *Arragon*, *Navarre*, and *Old Castille*; excellent Iron from *Guipuscoa*, where the Iron Mines chiefly are; Nuts, Chesnuts, Limons, Oranges, Anchovies from *Calica*.

The Trade of the Southern Parts of *Spain*, which are wash'd by the Mediterranean Sea, is chiefly at *Malaga*, *Cartagena*, *Alicant*, *Valentia*, *Almarica* and *Majorca*, *&c.* which afford all the Commodities I spoke of above; to wit, Wines, Oils, Olives, Raisins, Figs, Almonds, Aniseeds, Salt, Soap, Soude or Kali, and abundance of excellent Wool.

The Foreign Commodities which are most proper for this Country are *French* Linnens made in *Bittany*, good Quantities of Woollen and Silk Stuffs, Lace, Hats, Small Wares of every sort, and Jewellers Work, most of which are sent from *Cadiz*, the rest

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I pass over the Article of Musk, Civet, Ambergrease, &c. which amount to no small Sum: They carry also into *Spain* small Iron Ware work'd at *Nuremberg*, *Frankfort* and *Liege*, Steel and Copper-work from *Sweden*, Leather from *Denmark*, and *Russia* Leather for Chairs and Coaches; great Quantities of Paper and Cards which they used to have from *France*, White and Yellow Wax. This last Article is so considerable, that it is believed to exceed four Millions of Livres, as well by the *Dutch* Accounts as those of other Nations that Trade thither. The *Spaniards*, especially those that live in the *Indies*, consume prodigious Quantities, their chief Delight being to illuminate their Churches Sundays and Holydays.

In the time of Peace the *Spaniards* have from *Holland* Planks, Masts, Cordage, Pitch and Tar, and almost every thing that is necessary for Shipping, besides all sorts of Ammunition and Provisions, as Herrings, Salmon, Butter, Cheese and Corn (when there is a scarce Year, as it often happens in *Spain*) I must not forget Timber for building, nor that sort of Wood they make Pipes, Barrels and Casks of to carry their Wine and Oil in, to *America*. These are the principal Commodities the *Dutch* bring into *Spain*, and which they will again undoubtedly continue to do after the Conclusion of the approaching Peace.

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continually making of the *Portugueze* Territories in the *East Indies*, *Africa* and *Brazil*, being Subject to the King of *Spain*. The new King sent forthwith an Ambassador to the *Hague*, to represent to the States General that the *Portugueze*, as such, never having any Difference with the *United Provinces*, he earnestly wish'd there might be establish'd a good Understanding between the two Nations, which would put them in a better Condition to resist the *Spaniard*, their common Enemy.

The States General finding their Account in the Offers of the *Portugueze*, a Truce for ten Years was signed between them in the Year 1641, and included all the Countries belonging to the two Nations, as well on this as the other Side of the Line: By this Truce it was agreed that there should be a free Navigation, and that each Party should be Master of those Places they were in Possession of at the time of publishing such Truce; which Truce was so ill observ'd by the *Dutch* in the *Indies*, that the *Portugueze* were in some Measure oblig'd to break it in the Year 1645, by an Insurrection they made in *Brazil* against the *Dutch*, whom they entirely drove out of that Country. This occasioned a new War in *Brazil* between the two Nations, but it did not break out in *Europe* till the Month of *October* 1646, when the States General declar'd War in all its Forms against the King of *Portugal*, because

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he would not restore to their *West India* Company that which his Subjects had taken from them in 1647; but this Affair was endeavour'd to be accomodated by the Mediation of *France* and *Cromwel*.

The War between the Northern Crowns was the Cause that this Negotiation lingred out till the Restoration of the King of *England*, who resolving to marry the *Infanta* of *Portugal*, procur'd a Peace between the two Nations by his Mediation; and a perpetual Peace was signed by them accordingly, the 16th of *August*, 1661.

The Privileges the *Portugueze* granted to the *Dutch* by this Treaty, in relation to their Commerce, gave them an Opportunity of Trading very considerably in *Portugal*, particularly after the *French* prohibited all Foreign Sugar and Tobacco; and the *Portugueze* on their side prohibted all *French* Manufactures: 'Twas with these two Articles chiefly that the *Portugueze* paid for all *French* Goods; but after the *French* left off taking these from *Portugal*, the *Portugueze* would deal no more in *French* Merchandize; this gave the *Dutch* an Opportunity to furnish them with theirs, taking in payment Sugar and Tobacco, which they knew very well how to dispose of.

The Trade of *Holland* is chiefly at *Lisbon* and *Oporto*, but the first is the most considerable:

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rable: As for *St. Ubes* where they go for Salt there is very little or no Conſumption.

The Goods they Tranſport to *Portugal* conſiſt chiefly in great Quantities of Manufactures of Silk, Wool and Linnen, Small Wares and Iron-work, Paper, Cards, Leather, Corn in time of ſcarcity (which is there very frequent.) Of all ſorts of Merchandize except Corn, there is a vaſt Conſumption in *Portugal* and its Colonies.

The Goods they bring from *Portugal* are thoſe of the Country or its Colonies, the latter conſiſt in Sugars, Tobacco, Wood of *Brazil* and *Fernambouc*, Ox Hides, Ginger, Pearls, Indigo, rough Diamonds, and Ambergreaſe, *&c.*

Tobacco and Sugar are the chief Commodities of *Portugal*, Sugar is one of their richeſt Returns from *Brazil*, where it wonderfully abounds: The Iſlands of *S. Thomas*, *Madera*, *Capo Verde*; and the *Terceras* alſo furniſh conſiderable Quantities, but I am of the Opinion not near ſo good, unleſs it be that of *Madera*; they have alſo great Quantities of *Brazil* Wood, and other Woods for Dying, Ambergreaſe (which comes from *Melinda*) Pearls and Diamonds from the *Eaſt Indies*; this Merchandize is one of the greateſt Articles in the *Portugal* Trade.

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The Merchadize of *Portugal* itſelf conſiſts in Wines (amongſt which I ſhall reckon thoſe of *Madera*) Oils, Olives, Aniſeeds, excellent Fruits, Raſins and Figs.

It is believ'd that the *Dutch* bring every Year from *Portugal* ten or twelve Ships laden with thoſe Commodities, including Limons and Oranges, without reckoning their dry'd Sweetmeats made of ſeveral ſorts of admirable Fruits in *Portugal* and *Brazil*.

It is ſaid, that they ſend every Year directly into *Portugal* above twenty Sail of Ships, beſides other Ships that Trade in the Mediterranean, and come thence to *S. Ubes* for their lading of Salt, of which they make a great Conſumption in the North, where it has been very much in Uſe for a long time. The Commerce of *Holland* with *Portugal* is carried on by a Fleet of fifty Ships that are every Year conſtantly employ'd for that End, from fifteen to thirty Guns, with which they do good Service againſt the Corſairs and Pirates.

CHAP.

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CHAP. XII.

Of the Mediterranean *or* Streights *Trade.*

THE Trade of the Mediterranean Sea was heretofore the moſt conſiderable in the World, when that of the *Indies* only paſt thro' *Alexandria*, and ſome other Ports of *Syria*: This Commerce was chiefly carry'd on by the *French*, *Italians* and *Catalans*; but the *Venetians* were the moſt conſiderable of all.

The *Portugueza* making themſelves Maſters of the Trade of *Aſia* turn'd the Current, and the *Italians* and the *French* enjoy'd only the Commerce with the Provinces and Countries on the Coaſt of the Mediterranean, which however was very conſiderable.

And this they kept to themſelves till the *Engliſh* and *Dutch* began to Traffick with the Subjects of the Grand Signior; the former in the Year 1599, and the latter in 1612. ſince that time, thoſe two Nations have made themſelves ſo much Maſters of that Trade, that the *Italians* and *French* have very little to do.

The Trade of *Holland* to the Mediterranean, is one of the moſt conſiderable that Republick enjoys, as well on Account of the

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great Quantities of Merchandize they carry thither, and vend at a high Price, as in respect of the vast Number and Quality of those Goods they have thence in return, and of which likewise they make a considerable Profit in the other Parts of *Europe*; for which Reason the States-General are very careful and jealous of a Commerce so advantageous to their Republick. They have establish'd a Chamber, which they call *the Chamber of Direction*, compos'd of six Deputies and a Register; all the substantial Merchants of *Amsterdam*, who have attain'd the Rank of Burgomasters, have a particular regard to, and are much interested in what concerns the Navigation and Trade of the Mediterranean.

This Chamber has Authority to see that all Orders from the States-General, touching this free Navigation, and the Trade thereon depending, be duly observed; and this Chamber takes Notice or Cognizance of all Differences that may arise at any time, in pursuance of such Commerce: It regulates in some Measure, the Convoys that are necessary for Merchants Ships, and nominates Consuls for the Sea-ports of the *Levant*, with consent of the States-General.

They send every Year about 10 Ships, that sail from *Holland* in three or four Squadrons, to trade in the Dominions of the Grand Seignior.

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Their Veſſels of Freight cannot have leſs than 20 or 25 Pieces of Cannon, and 60 or 70 Men each; and becauſe theſe Voyages are very dangerous, by reaſon of the Corſairs of *Barbary*; they allow them a Convoy of two Men of War of 50 or 60 Pieces of Cannon, and 160 or 170 Men.

Theſe little Squadrons, both going and coming, touch generally at *Leghorn*, one of the beſt and moſt convenient Ports in *Italy*; there they take in freſh Proviſions and Pieces of Eight, things abſolutely neceſſary for an advantageous Trading Voyage to the *Levant*. The *Genceſe* who are always well provided with this ſort of Money, are the People that furniſh them, tho' they very often furniſh themſelves with it at *Cadiz*.

There are other *Dutch* Veſſels that go to ſeveral Ports of *Italy*, *Spain*, and the Coaſts of *Barbary*, with Merchandize which they diſpoſe of there, and then take in other Commodities for the *Levant*, either on their own Account, or for the *Italians*, *French*, &c. and thence continue their Courſe to the *Levant*. The ſame Method they take in returning; that is to ſay, they ſell in thoſe Ports the Commodities they bring from the *Levant*, and lade themſelves again with ſuch as they judge proper for *Holland*, either on their own or other People's Account.

Amongſt

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Amongſt all the Ports the Grand Signior has in the *Archipelago*, *Candia*, *Cyprus*, *Rhodes*, *Greece*, *Aſia* and *Egypt*, thoſe of *Conſtantinople*, *Smyrna*, *Aleppo* and *Grand Cairo*, are Places of the greateſt Commerce; but *Smirna* exceeds them all, by reaſon of the Carravans of *Perſia*, and the prodigious Number of Chriſtian Veſſels that reſort thither.

This Town, is the very Centre of the *Engliſh* and *Dutch Levant* Trade, and the principal Mart of their Cloths, which are not only much admired and ſought after in the Territories of the Grand Signior, but in *Perſia* and the greateſt Part of *Aſia*.

The Trade of *Egypt* is by the way of *Grand Cairo*; this renowned City is not only the general Magazine of all ſorts of Merchandize, produced in that rich and vaſt Kingdom, but alſo of what comes thither from the Coaſts of the *Red Sea*, the *Eaſt-Indies*, *Perſia* and *Arabia Felix*, and ſome Provinces of *Africa*: However, notwithſtanding all this, the Trade of *Grand Cairo* is now only a Shadow, in Compariſon of what it was before the *Portugueze* diſcovered the *Eaſt-Indies*.

The Trade of this Place with *Europe* and *Aſia*, is carried on by the *Nile*; *Alexandria* and *Rhodes*, ſituated on the two Entrances of that famous River, are the two Ports where ordinarily reſort the Chriſtian Ships: *Damietta*, which lies in the South-Entrance of the

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ſame River, is frequented only by the Merchants of *Africa* and *Turkey*.

There is very little Conſumption at the two former Places, which are to be conſider'd as Places of Staple for thoſe who trade to *Grand Cairo*, which City is about Fifty Leagues diſtant; and that is the Reaſon that the *Dutch* Trade in *Egypt* is very inconſiderable.

Beſides, the Miniſter the *Dutch* always have at the Ottoman Port, whoſe principal Employment is to ſee the Articles of Agreement between the two Nations put in Execution, and ſecure and protect the Commerce of the Republick; they have their Conſuls and their Vice-Conſuls, in the chief Ports of the *Levant*, who do Juſtice to the *Dutch* Merchants that live there, without any Fee, Salary, or Perquiſite.

The principal Merchandiſe that the *Dutch* carry to the *Levant*, are Cloths of all ſorts, Spices, Cochineal, Indigo, Drugs, Woods fit for Dying, Tin, Lead, Iron, Steel, Cotton, *Ruſſia*-Leather, and Money both Gold and Silver.

Their Clothes and other Woollen Stuffs have ever made the greateſt Article of what the People of *Europe* are uſed to ſend into the *Levant*; the *Venetians* and *French* ſupply'd thoſe Countries heretofore; but the *Engliſh* and *Dutch* have long ſince made themſelves Maſters of that

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that conſiderable Trade; and it is ſaid, that thoſe two Nations ſend thither every Year a prodigious Quantity of all ſorts, Qualities and Colours, great part of which is preſently taken off by the Caravans of *Perſia* that come for that very Purpoſe to *Smyrna*, and thence carry them to ſell in their own Country, and *Tartary*.

The great Fidelity and Exactneſs that the *Engliſh* and *Dutch* always keep in the Quality, Meaſure and Colour of their Cloths, added to their cheapneſs, have been the principal Reaſon that this Trade runs only thro' the hands of thoſe two Nations.

The Spices the *Dutch* bring into the *Levant* are Cloves, Nutmegs, Cinnamon, Pepper; to which I ſhall add Ginger and Sugar; 'twas heretofore from the Ports of *Syria* they had all their Spices, but now by a very ſurprizing Revolution of Commerce, the *Dutch*, a People of the *North*, after a Navigation of many thouſand Leagues, which they conſtantly make to acquire this rich Merchandize, ſupply thoſe very Ports with Spices which heretofore uſed to furniſh all *Europe*.

The *Dutch* bring likewiſe into the *Levant* the fineſt Woods and Drugs for Dying, as Cochineel, Indigo, Gumlac, Woods of *Brazil*, *Fernambouc*, *Stampan*, *Brazillet*, and *Campechy*.

All

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All these Commodities, and many others come from *Africa*, except Gumlac and Siampon, which are the Product of the *Indies*.

They bring likewise thither a great deal of Steel, Iron, tin'd Iron, Iron Wire, Brass Plates, *Russia* Leather, Lead and Tin: But the *English*, whose Country produces these two last in greatest abundance, bring into the *Levant* much greater Quantities, and the vast Consumption that there is made, is none of the least Articles of the *English* Trade: The Tin Men over all the East use a great deal of it in Kitchin Furniture, which for the most part is made of no other Mettal but Copper.

Tho' the Money the *Dutch* make in *Holland* be nothing near of so good Alloy as the *Spanish* Pieces of Eight, they go nevertheless in the *Levant* as well as the other: I omit here some Commodities of lesser Consequence which the *Dutch* are likewise used to bring into these Parts; all sorts of Goods are well enough received at *Grand Caico*, except fine Linnen and Spices.

The greatest part of the Commodities that the *Dutch* bring from the Ports of the *Levant*, come from the Grand Signiors Dominions, the rest from those Ports where arrive the Caravans of *Persia* and *Armenia*, the chief of which Commodities are raw and spun Silks, twilled Goats and Camels Hair, Cotton, Callicoes, *Cordovan* and other Leather, colour'd Camblets, Wax,

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Wax, Allom, Galls, Wool, Boxwood, Tea, Coffee, Currants, Ultramarine, and all ſorts of Drugs for the Apothecaries Uſe.

The Silks that come from the *Levant* are for the moſt part the Product of *Perſia*, *Syria*, *Egypt*, the Iſlands of the *Archipelago*, and the *Morea*. But what the Caravans bring every Year to *Smyrna*, far exceeds in Quantity that which comes from the other Countries of the *Levant*.

Theſe Caravans bring likewiſe a great deal of Goats Hair ſpun at *Angora* and *Debazar* in *Perſia*, of which they make the fineſt Camlets in *England* and *Holland*.

It is ſaid that the *Dutch* every Year bring from the *Levant* about 2000 Bales of Silk, and the like Quantity of ſpun Goats Hair, and the *Engliſh* take off almoſt as much.

The Cotton that comes from the *Levant* grows chiefly in the Grand Signior's Dominions in the Country about *Smyrna*, and in the Iſle of *Cyprus*.

There are not ſuch Quantities in *Perſia*, but the Caravans bring to *Smyrna Indian* Callicoes, and other Stuffs made of Cotton, as Muſlins, and that which the *French* call *Cambreſines*, which are very fine, and bear a good Price.

They make in the Grand Signiors Dominions a vaſt Quantity of Cotton Stuffs, both blue and white, which are very excellent, and ſell well,

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well, especially the blue, which are Dyed to that Perfection, that the Colour never stirs.

The Article of *Cordovan*, *Turkey* Leather and common Leather is also very considerable; there is a vast Consumption in *Italy*, *France* and *Spain*, and even in the North itself; these *Turkey* Leathers are of several Colours, but most commonly white, red, and yellow; this Commodity alone, is one of the greatest Articles of the *Dutch* Trade in the *Levant*.

The Trade for Drugs is no less, considering the great Consumption made in all Parts of *Europe*: Rhubarb and Scammony come from *Tartary*, and are brought by the Caravans of *Persia* to *Smyrna* and *Aleppo*, together with Galbanum, Yppomenes, Aromatick Gums, Tutia, and other Drugs.

Grand *Cairo* likewise furnishes several sorts of Gums and Drugs, *viz.* Frankincense, Sena, Cassia, Aloes, Sal Armoniac, and Tamarinds, Coffee, Pine Kernels, Ostridge Feathers, and some other Commodities of *Egypt*; I must not omit Mastick, which comes only from the Isle of *Chio*, nor Currants, of which the *English* make a great Consumption, and are the Product of the Isles of *Zante* and *Cephalonia*.

Tho' the *Dutch* were the last that came to trade in the Grand Signior's Countries, yet have they been treated no less favourably than other Nations; on the contrary, they and the *English*, who for a long while since have almost

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moſt ſhared all that Trade of thoſe Parts, are the moſt eſteemed and beſt treated, having paid for many Years only 3 *per Cent.* while other Nations pay five. This, together with the good Order and prudent Conduct of the *Engliſh* and *Dutch* in that Succeſsful Trade, has made them Maſters of it, while the *French* carried themſelves after a different Manner.

Beſides, this Trade is manag'd all over the Grand Signior's Dominions, with the greateſt Eaſe and Profit; for the Goods that are Exported, pay no more than three *per Cent.* and thoſe that are Imported five *per Cent.* once for all; after that you may tranſport them to any Province you pleaſe, ſubject to that Empire, without being obliged to pay new Duties: For Example, a Bale of Cloth that has paid the Cuſtom of Entry at the Port of *Smyrna*, may go out for *Conſtantinople* Cuſtom-free; and the Officers (whatever is ſaid of the *Turkiſh* Extortion) are not over ſevere, for if any one ſhould give it in that, a leſs Quantity of Goods entered the Port than really did, and the Fraud ſhould be diſcovered, yet he would be acquitted on paying the Overplus for what he had ſo concealed. By this it appears, that the *Turks* underſtand better the Maxims neceſſary for the flouriſhing of Trade, than other Nations who look upon them as a barbarous People, that inflame and carry Matters with a high hand in relation to Delinquents in this Kind

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Kind by Confiscations, Forfeitures, and Penalties, odious to the People, and no ways advantageous to the Prince.

SECTION II.

Of the Trade of Italy.

THE Trade the *Dutch* have with *Italy* is considerably great; they carry thither great Quantities of *Indian* Goods, and their own Manufactures, and bring thence a great deal of woven and raw Silks, and other Products of that Country; they trade chiefly to the Ports of *Genoa*, *Leghorn*, *Venice*, *Naples*, and *Messina*: These five Places, if I may use the Expression, are the Staple Marts for all Commodities that the other Ports of *Italy* furnish Strangers with, who on the other hand bring thither theirs, which are afterwards dispersed all over *Italy*.

Genoa without Contradiction, is a Place of the greatest Trade, *not only* because several Manufactures flourish there, and the Merchants of that City trade much themselves with their own Vessels to other Countries, and especially *Spain*; *but also* on Account of the

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Trade of all *Lombardy* with Strangers, which muſt paſs thro' the Hands of the *Genoeſe*.

Here follows an Account of the principal Goods the *Dutch* carry into *Italy*.

Pepper, Cloves, Nutmegs, Cinnamon, *Ruſſia* Leather, *China* Ware, Iron, *Swediſh* Copper, *Engliſh* Tin and Lead, Whalebone, Pitch and Tar, Maſts, Planks, and other things neceſſary for Navigation; Cloths, Serges, Camlets, *Flanders* Thread, Stockfiſh, Pickled Salmon, Caviard, Muſk and Civet, Wheat and other Grain (when there is a ſcarce Seaſon in *Italy*): All theſe Goods are brought into the five Ports I juſt now mention'd, except Iron and Copper, which muſt never come to *Venice*, no more than Cloths, which are there Prohibited and Counterband, becauſe the Natives make great Quantities themſelves, and very good.

The Commodities the *Dutch* carry out of *Italy* are ſeveral ſorts of Silks, raw and twiſted, Woven Silks of all Kinds, as plain and wrought Velvets, Tabbies, Sattins, Damaſks, *&c.* Gold and Silver Brocades, Gold Thread, drawn and twiſted at *Milan*, Oil of Olives, Parmeſan Cheeſe, Anchovies, Sauſages, dry'd Fruits, (as Raiſins, Figs, and Almonds,) Lemons, and Citrons; Paſtes and Confections of all ſorts, Rice, Anniſeeds, Allum and Sulphur, *Venetian* Steel, Manna, Amber, Turpentine, Creme Tartar, fine Lacca, Glaſs of all ſorts, white Marble

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Marble in Squares and Tables, Paper, Soap, Eſſences, perfumed Gloves, Snuff, *&c.*

One may likewiſe be furniſh'd at *Leghorn*, *Genoa*, and *Venice*, with all ſorts of Goods from the *Levant*.

Woven and Raw Silks are certainly the moſt conſiderable and important Merchandize ſtrangers export out of *Italy*, and are really the Baſis and Foundation of the *Italian* Trade: Theſe Silks which are of ſeveral ſorts come from *Lombardy*, and *Sicily*, and are chiefly made in *Florence* and *Naples*; the plain Velvets are made at *Genoa* and *Rheggio*, the wrought ones which have Sattin Grounds and Silk Flowers, as well as thoſe that have Gold and Silver Grounds are made at *Milan*, *Genoa*, *Venice*, *&c.* Sattins and Damasks at *Genoa*, *Bologna*, and *Lucca*; (the white Sattins made at *Florence* are inimitable,) Gold and Silver Brocades at *Venice* and *Florence*: I paſs by a great many other *Italian* Manufactures of Silk, very profitable, which the Brevity of this Treatiſe will not admit of.

It muſt be obſerv'd in general, that theſe Manufactures of *Italy* are the beſt in *Europe*, which proceeds from the Beauty and Goodneſs of their Silk.

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CHAP. XIII.

Of the East India *Trade.*

THE *India* Trade is of very great Importance to the *Dutch*, not only on Account of the Spices they are Masters of, (which rich Productions are equally esteem'd and sought after by the Inhabitants of the old and new World;) but also because this Trade has given them Opportunities of conquering a vast Country of prodigious Extent, and maintaining a strong Force at Sea, which in some Measure makes them sole Arbiters of the Commerce and Trade of those vast Regions.

It is now above 2000 Years ago, that the *East Indies* and *Europe* traded with each other; *Ptolemy* II. King of *Egypt*, contributed most to cultivate this Commerce, by means of a new Road he caused to be made in his own Dominions, from *Copta*, a Town bordering on the *Nile*, to *Muris*, a Port on the *Red Sea*; by Means of this Passage, the Carriage of all Commodities, as well those of *India* as *Europe*, was manag'd with much Ease and Conveniency by the mutual Assistance of the Merchants of *Egypt* and *Grand Cairo.*

Augustus having made himself Master of *Egypt*, the *Romans* omitted nothing that might serve

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ſerve to favour and increaſe the *Indian* Trade in *Egypt*; and whereas before the *Egyptians* uſed only to employ in that Affair twenty Ships in the Time of *Auguſtus*, they employ'd then a hundred and twenty; and this Commerce was ſo very advantageous to the *Egyptians*, that by the Merchandize they brought from the *Indies*, they got a hundred for one, or ten Thouſand *per Cent.*

The *Romans* were Maſters of this Trade till the Reign of the Emperor *Heraclius*; afterwards the *Arabians* engroſs'd it all, and they found it ſo Profitable and Advantageous, that they ſettled themſelves in the *Indies*, and propagated there the *Mahometan* Religion, which they profeſſed; the *Indians* in moſt places readily embraced it, as ſuiting their Humour and Inclination.

All the Merchandize of *Aſia* continued its old Courſe, and came into *Europe* by the *Red Sea* and *Alexandria*; as alſo by the *Perſian Gulf*, and then was carried in the Caravans belonging to the *Perſian* Merchants, to the Ports of *Syria*, which likewiſe were in ſubjection to the Souldan of *Egypt.*

'Twas to theſe ſeveral Ports the *French*, *Italians*, *Catalans*, and other Traders of *Europe* uſed to reſort, to buy the *Eaſt India* Spices and other Commodities brought thither by the *Arabians*; which they again diſperſed all over *Europe* with prodigious Profit; but

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the *Italians* being the neareſt, were thoſe that got the moſt riches, by this profitable Commerce.

The Eaſtern Trade continued to be carried on with *Europe*, by the Ports of the Mediteranean, till about the Year 1498, when the *Portugueze* having ſailed round *Africa*, (a Thing before that time never performed by Man) came to *Calicut* a Town in the *Indies*, towards the end of the Month of *May* 1498, after having ſpent 88 Years time in diſcovering that Paſſage; this Action gained them greater Honour and Reputation than the *Phenicians*, *Carthaginians*, and *Greeks* ever had, who never attempted ſo bold a Voyage, tho' they were the firſt Inventors of Navigation.

The *Portugueze*, when they arrived in the *Indies*, found the *Arabians* very powerfully eſtabliſh'd in moſt Parts of that Country, and Maſters of all the Trade, and who omitted nothing to hinder theſe new Comers from ſetling there. They not only ſtirred up the greateſt and moſt powerful Kings of *India* againſt them, but even the Souldans of *Egypt*, with whom, for a long time, they had very ſharp and cruel Wars; but all the Power that theſe confederated Princes could make againſt the *Portugueze*, did not hinder them from accompliſhing their Deſigns; by their Valour and good Conduct, they made themſelves Maſters

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Masters of the Trade of those vast Regions of the East, by conquering an incredible Number of the most important Places, and throughly fortifying those Conquests from *Cape Couran*, on the Eastern Coasts of *Africa* to *China*, and by their Men of War which were continually cruising on those vast Seas; particularly on the Coasts of *Arabia*, to hinder Commerce for the future being carried on at *Grand Cairo* and *Alexandria*, and fixing it entirely at *Lisbon*.

I have here inserted the Names of the principal Places that the *Portuguese* possess'd on the Coasts of *Asia* and *Africa*.

The Castle *de las Minas* in *Guinea*; the Towns of St. *Salvador* on the Coasts of the Kingdom of *Congo*, and of St. *Paul de Loandes* in the Kingdom of *Angola*, made them Masters of all the Commerce on the Western Coasts of *Africa*; and the Fortresses of *Sofales*, and *Mozambique* and *Quitou* of the Commerce of the Eastern Coasts. Besides these, they had the important Places of *Moscats* and *Ormuts* on the Coasts of *Arabia* and *Persia*; on the Coasts of *Cambay* and *Malabar* besides *Goa*, (the Capital of all their Territories in the *East*) they had Possession of *Diu*, *Cochin*, *Canar*, *Orangavar*, and *Coular*. They were Masters of four good Fortresses in the Isle of *Ceylan*, which secured to them the Cinnamon Trade. On the Coast

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of *Coromandel*, St. *Thomas*, *Nagapatan* and *Infanopatan*, *Golit* in *Bengall*, and *Sirem* in *Pegu*. The important Haven of *Malaca* on the Streights of the same Name, and *Piacem* in the Isle of *Sumatra*.

The Fortresses they had in the Isles of *Tinon*, *Amboina*, *Ternate* and *Benda*, made them likewise Masters of the Clove and Nutmeg Trade.

In short, they possessed on the Coasts of *China* the celebrated and important Town of *Macar*, and though they had no footing in *Japan*, of which they were the first Discoverers; yet they carried on a very considerable and rich Trade with the *Japoneſe*, a thing, at that time and since, unknown in the old World.

Their Shipping, which are continually going to, and coming from *Japan*, bring thence a great deal of Silver and fine Copper; as also Gold, Silk woven and raw, Porcelain, *China* Ware, Tin and Lead, from the Kingdom of *Siam*; Rubies and Sapphires, from *Pegu*; Pearls from the Isle of *Manar*, and from *Baherem* Sugar, Salt-Petre, and rich Silks; Cotton from the Kingdom of *Bengale*, and the finest painted Callicoes; Diamonds from the Coast of *Coromandel*; Pepper from the Kingdom of *Golconda*; Cinamon from the Coast of *Malabar*, and the Islands of *Sumatra* and *Java*; Cloves and Nutmegs, from the Isle of *Ceylan*; from the *Molucca* Islands, Indigo; from

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from *Amphion*, Cotton, Silks, Lacca and Agates; from the Great Mogul's Country, Silk woven and raw, Gold Stuffs and Carpets, Rhubarb, Sena, and other Drugs; from *Persia*, Myrrh, Frankincense, Manna, Balsam of *Arabia*, Gold, Ivory, Tygers Skins, Bezoar, and *African* Lyons Skins.

SECTION III.

Of the Means the Dutch *took to establish themselves in the* Indies.

THE *Dutch* for many Years furnish'd themselves with all these rich Commodities I mention'd in the last Chapter at *Lisbon*, where they sufficiently abounded; but the Crown of *Portugal* in the Year 1580, being united to that of *Castille*; the Severities they some time after suffered in the *Spanish* Dominions under *Philip* II. oblig'd them to abandon that Trade, and was the real Cause of putting them on that great Undertaking of going themselves to the *Indies*, and there to furnish themselves directly with those very Commodities they used before to have from *Portugal*. The insuperable Difficulties of this great Enterprize, deterr'd them a long while, and they knew not in the least the

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the Navigation of those vast Seas they were to sail over, and were as much Strangers to the Language, Genius, and Commerce of the *Indians*: The *Portugueze* always keeping these things very close and private from the rest of *Europe*. But nothing troubled them so much as the *Portugueze* Men of War, and other Shipping that were continually sailing every where on those Seas, and which they believ'd they could not possibly avoid.

To surmount this Difficulty, they endeavour'd to open a Passage into *China* and the *Indies* thro' the North, but the insuperable Obstacles they met with, by reason of those prodigious Rocks of Ice in the *White* or *Frozen Sea*, made them abandon that Project as too dangerous. In short, they took up a Resolution to take the same Route as the *Portugueze*; and accordingly some of the most resolute Merchants of *Amsterdam* and *Zealand*, fitted out from the *Texel* in the beginning of the Month of *April* in the Year 1559, four Vessels laden with Goods for the *East Indies*.

Notwithstanding all the Precautions, they took in this Voyage, they found many rubs laid in their Way, especially by the *Portugueze*, who did all they could to starve them; but for all that, three of these Ships, (one of which, by the Sailor's Negligence, they were forced to abandon) arrived in *Holland* in the Month of *August* 1561.

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This proving at leaſt a ſaving Voyage for thoſe that were concerned in it, made them hope for better Succeſs for the future; and upon this Foundation they began to form ſeveral Companies in *Holland*, to carry on the *Indian* Commerce.

Nothing contributed ſo much to their happy Succeſs in the beginning of this Trade, as the favourable reception they met with from ſeveral *Indian* Princes, ſecret Enemies to the *Portugueze* on Account of their Pride, Tyranny, and indiſcreet Zeal of their Miſſionaries, which raiſed them a great Number of Enemies, who for a long time only waited for an Opportunity to declare themſelves againſt them.

An *Engliſh* Gentleman (whoſe Integrity cannot be queſtion'd) ſays, that the *Dutch* Conduct was very prudent, never undertaking any thing againſt the *Indians*; from whom they never exacted any Contributions as the *Portugueze* did, but only contented themſelves with eſtabliſhing their own Commerce, and ruining that of the *Portugueze*.

Theſe ſeveral *Dutch* Companies traded ſeparately to the *Indies* till the Year 1602, when the States General judged it proper to unite them, that they might be in a better Condition to defend themſelves againſt the *Spaniards* and *Portugueze*, and to attack them if Occaſion ſo required: Out of theſe ſeveral Companies was formed that general *Eaſt India* Company, which

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which alone for twenty Years together, could carry on the Navigation beyond the *Cape of Good Hope* and the *Streights* of *Magellan*; their Stock which was no more than about 6500000 Florins or Guilders, was ſo well managed by theſe able Merchants, that they have entirely deſtroy'd the great Empire and Commerce of the *Portugueze* in the *Indies*, having poſſeſſed themſelves of both, and founded on their ruine, a State whoſe Power may vie with that of their Republick in *Europe*.

The *Dutch* who ſettled firſt in the *Indies*, contented themſelves to ſtand on the Defenſive againſt the *Portugueze*, whenever they attack'd them, but ſeeing with all their Policy and Addreſs, they could never obtain of them Permiſſion to trade quietly to the *Indies*, the General Company reſolved to attack them as briskly in their Turn, and put themſelves in a Condition to repel Force by Force.

In the beginning of the Year 1605, they ſeized upon the Fortreſs the *Portugueze* had in the Iſland of *Amboina*; this was the firſt ſolid footing the Company got in the *Indies* and that Iſland to this very Day, is one of the chief Governments the Company has in thoſe Parts.

This firſt Conqueſt was follow'd by that of the other *Molucca* Iſlands, and conſequently made them Maſters of the Spices, the richeſt and moſt important Commerce of any in the World. They had an Intention in the Year 1606, to poſſeſs

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poſſeſs themſelves of the important Place of *Malacca*, but the obſtinate Reſiſtance they found there, made them lay aſide the Execution of that Enterprize till another Opportunity.

The *Spaniards* finding by Experience, that it was impoſſible to drive the *Dutch* out of the *Indies* by Force, offer'd to make Peace with them, and acknowledge them a free People if they would abandon the *India* Trade. How great ſoever theſe Offers were, they made no manner of Impreſſion on the *Dutch*, who peremptorily refus'd them, and rather choſe to continue a long War (as it proved to be) and which they entred into only to obtain their Liberty (which was then offer'd to them on ſuch hard Conditions,) than to abandon the *Eaſt India* Trade, and they did not ſign the Truce in the Year 1609, but on Condition they ſhould trade freely to the *Eaſt Indies* in all the Places they uſed to do during the War.

Tho' the Company was oblig'd to continue the War in the *Indies*, the *Spaniards* ſo ill obſerving the Truce, yet that did no ways hinder them from ſtrenuouſly carrying on their Trade even to the principal Places of the Eaſt, where before it was unknown and unheard of; the Trade of *Japan*, which they ſettled in the Year 1611, was of the greateſt Conſequence, and they knew ſo well afterwards how to improve it, that ſince the Year 1616, they are the

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the only People in *Europe* that have any thing to do in those Parts.

The Fort which King *Isnagar* gave them leave to build on the Coast of *Coromandel*, having skreen'd them from the Resentment and Insults of the *Portugueze* of *St. Thomas*, established firmly their Commerce there, and which is one of the most considerable in the *Indies*.

In 1609, they began to build their City of *Batavia* on the Ruines of the small Town of *Iventra* in the Isle of *Java*; it was fortify'd by a Citadel, compass'd with a Wall and eighteen Bastions, which were so strongly built that this Town afterwards held out three Sieges against the Kings of the Isle of *Java*. As soon as *Batavia* was finish'd, the General Company made it the Capital of all their Territories in *Asia*, and the Centre of all Commerce in those Parts; the *Dutch* General makes it the Place of his Residence, living in the Citadel with his Court and Council.

Since the Companies Trade so wonderfully encreas'd, and in a short time became the most considerable of all *Asia*, the *Dutch* made new Conquests; and the Kings of the Islands, and the Coasts of *Asia*, struck with the Success and Grandeur of the Company, soon came and coveted their Alliance. In Process of Time, they erected several publick and private Buildings at *Batavia*, of extraordinary Beauty and Magnificence, insomuch that it is now, and has

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a long time ſince been, the Wonder of *Aſia*, both for its Beauty and Commerce; for there is never a Day, but you may ſee Veſſels entering the Ports from *Bengal*, *Siam*, *Malacca*, the *Molucca* and *Philipine* Iſlands, *China*, and all other Parts of the *Indies*, not including thoſe that come from *Europe*.

The Truce ending in 1621, the two Parties, *viz.* the *Portugueze* and *Dutch* prepar'd themſelves for War, both in the old and new World. Of all the Advantages the *Dutch* got in the *Indies* over the *Portugueze*, That in the Year 1640 was the greateſt, for in that very Year the Company, in ſhort, made themſelves Maſters of the Town of *Malacca*, and by that Conqueſt became Maſters of the moſt conſiderable *Streight* in all *Aſia*. In effect, it was one of the moſt important Places the *Portugueze* had in the *Indies*; its Situation was wonderful for the Trade of *China* and the *Molucca* Iſlands, and they always kept there a ſtrong Garriſon, and a good Fleet, which ſtruck a Terror into all the Neighbouring Iſlands.

On thr 1ſt of *December*, in the ſame Year 1640, the *Portugueze* ſhook off the *Caſtillian* Yoke, and made the Duke of *Braganza* their King, who was acknowledg'd as ſuch not only by all *Portugal*, but by all the States that Crown poſſeſs'd in *Aſia*, *Africa* and *America*.

As the *Portugueze* were not at War with the *Dutch*, but as Subjects to the King of *Spain*,

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Spain, as soon as they ceased to be so, they desired an Alliance with the *Dutch*, with whom, in the Year 1641. they concluded a Truce for ten Years, for all Places belonging to each Nation, both on this and the other side the Line; There was to be a free Navigation for both Parties every where; and each was to remain in Possession of those Places they held in the *East* and *West-Indies*, at the time of publishing the Truce.

This Treaty was not capable to put a Stop to the *Dutch* Conquests; for notwithstanding the Truce they had sign'd, they made themselves Masters of the Towns of *Gallo* and *Columbo*, two of the principal Places the *Dutch*, or rather the *Portugueze* had in the Isle of *Ceylan*; and this put into their Hands the whole Cinnamon Trade, and in some sort made themselves Masters of the Streights between the Isle of *Ceylan* and Cape *Comorin*; so that by these Means they govern the two most powerful Passages of *Asia*.

The *Portugueze* being not able to have any Justice done them, for the Infractions of the Truce thus made by the *Dutch*, resolv'd to do themselves Justice, and accordinly made an Insurrection and general Revolt in *Brazil*, which cost the *Dutch* the Loss of all they possess'd in that Place, and almost ruined their *West-India* Company.

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The War also broke out in good earnest between the two Nations in the *East*, and lasted 16 Years; in which time the *Dutch* took from the *Portuguese* almost all the Trade they had left in the *East-Indies*.

The taking of several Castles and strong Places by the *Dutch* in 1661. belonging to the *Portuguese*, from the Entrance of the *Indian* Seas as far as *Suratte*, struck such a Terror into that vast Country, that the City of *Goa* was afraid they must have fallen under the Government of the *Dutch* Company.

They got besides, a Battle near *Dabul*; the Consequences of which were very fatal to the *Portuguese*, for several little Kings on this side the *Ganges*, following always the strongest side, left the *Portuguese* to put themselves under the Protection of the *Dutch*, who by reducing the Town and Island of *Medaa* (which was oblig'd to be abandon'd to them) saw themselves Masters of the Streights of *Chilas*.

The Expence and Trouble the Company were at during this War, did not hinder them from taking all Methods to advance their Commerce. In the Year 1653, they made a new Establishment at the *Cape of Good Hope*, for the Conveniency of their Shipping that should make the Voyages of *India*. There is at present a great Town, and a Fort with 6 Bastions, that commands all the Road. The Air is very

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good, plenty of all sorts of Game, and the Soil produces good Corn and Wine; so that that this Port is of the greatest Benefit and Advantage to their Fleets which here take in fresh Provisions.

Notwithstanding the ill Success that the *Dutch* Company met with in the several Attempts they made to settle their Commerce with *China*, they was resolv'd in the Year 1655, to make a greater than ever, by sending thither a splendid Embassy with rich Presents for the Emperor of *Tartary*, who was then Master of the Empire of *China*. It was believ'd they would have carried their Point, notwithstanding the Stratagems of the *Jesuits* and *Portugueze*, who both paid dear enough afterwards for the ill Services they did the *Dutch* on that Occasion.

This same Company suffer'd yet a more troublesome Mortification in the Year 1661, where they were driven by Force out of the Island of *Formosa*, which lies between *China* and *Japan*. This Loss was very considerable, in relation to the great Trade they drove with both these Empires.

In the same Year 1661, the *Portugueze* and *Dutch* being both wearied by a War so pernicious to them both, signed a Peace at the *Hague* by the Mediation of the Kings of *England*.

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By this Treaty, the *Dutch* quitted *Brazil* entirely to the *Portugueze* for a good Sum of Money, and some Advantages in respect of Trade. The Jealousy afterwards between the Viceroy of *Goa*, and the General of *Batavia* grew so great, that this Peace was not at all observ'd in the *East Indies*.

In the Year 1663, the *Dutch* took from them the best Places they had on the Coasts of *Malabar*, viz. *Coulan*, *Cananor*, *Cochin* and *Grandanor*. Thus in less than the space of one Year, almost 150 Leagues of the Country on the Coast of *Malabar* exchang'd their Governors, and from the *Portugueze* came under the Dominion of the Company, which much augmented their Commerce in the Provinces of *Guzaratte*, *Indoston* and *Bengal*.

The *Portugueze* were not the only People the Company fell out with, they had several Wars with the *Indian* Kings, but that against the King of *Macassar* was one of the longest and most difficult they ever knew in that Country; the Subjects of that Prince, a hardy and warlike People, rob'd and murder'd not only the Servants and Friends of the Company, but embarrass'd much their Spice Trade; and there was good reason to believe the King himself shar'd part of the Spoil: But at last the Company attack'd him with so much Vigour, and such considerable Force, that they oblig'd

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him to beg Peace on such Conditions as the Council of *Batavia* thought fit to impose on him by the Treaty of 1669, by which that King was oblig'd to give up, amongst other Fortresses, that of *Macassar*; and thus that Powerful Nation was entirely subdued, and the Company by that means freed from the most dangerous Enemies they ever had in the *Indies*, and became absolute Masters of the Trade of the *Molucca* Islands, which had been very much troubled and interrupted several Years by the Incursions and Intelligence of the *Macassarians*.

After a long Series of Prosperity and Success, they sent their Troops in the Year 1675, into the Town of *St. Thomas* on the Coast of *Coromandel*, having assisted the King of *Golconda* to retake his Country from the *French*, who had some Years before possess'd themselves of it.

About the Year 1680, the Emperor *Matarum* in the Isle of *Java*, deliver'd up to the Company the Towns of *Tapara* and *Cheribon*, both (if I mistake not) lying on the same Coast as *Batavia*, for the Assistance they lent him against his two Brothers that had rebell'd against him, by which that Prince grew very powerful in their Dependencies. In the Year 1682, we heard in *Europe* that they had likewise made themselves Masters of the Town of *Bantam*, which submitted themselves in the same

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ſame manner as the Iſle of *Java*. This Town is ſituated in the middle of a Bay, which has a Road, one of the fineſt, ſafeſt and moſt convenient of any in the *Indies*, both for coming in and going out.

Bantam was a Town of Trade, eſpecially for Pepper, and all the Merchants of *Europe* uſed to trade thither; but ſince it has fallen into the *Dutch* hands, no body has Liberty to come into that Port, all the Trade being transferr'd to *Batavia*. This Affair occaſion'd great Heats in *Europe* between the *Engliſh* and *Dutch*; the former, not bearing to ſee themſelves excluded one of the chiefeſt Places where they had ſo many Years eſtabliſh'd their *Indian* Trade, accus'd the *Dutch* of having by their Artifices occaſioned the *Bantam* War, to make themſelves Maſters of the Iſle of *Java*, and thereby to engroſs to themſelves all the Trade of the *Indies*, excluſive of all the other Nations of *Europe*: This Quarrel after ſome Years, was at laſt put an end to by the Treaty of ....

By theſe Ways the *Dutch* have eſtabliſh'd themſelves in the *Indies*, but chiefly by taking away from the *Portugueze* almoſt all their Commerce, and their beſt Places in that Country: They have often attempted to ſurprize *Goa* and *Diu*, which are all they have now left them of any Importance, and which

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sooner or later 'tis thought, the *Dutch* will accomplish.

I shall now discourse of the Way and Manner how they manage their Trade with the *Indies*, but first it will not be unuseful to give an Account of the Number of the Places, and of their chief Trade and Exchange which is chiefly manag'd in these happy Climates.

SECTION IV.

Of the Dutch *Trade in several Countries in* Asia.

THE *Dutch* Trade to the *Indies* does not barely consist in bringing Goods into *Asia* from *Europe*, and transporting thence others in Exchange, but often in carrying the very Commodities of *Asia* to be sold in other Parts of *Asia* itself; that is, for Example, to carry the Commodities of the Kingdom of *Siam* and *China* into *Japan*, and those of *Japan* into those Parts of *Asia* where they are most necessary. 'Tis by this Circulation which they make all over the East, as well in relation to the Commodities of *Europe* as *Asia*, that they sufficiently provide themselves with those they send into *Holland*.

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Here follows an Account of what this Company transports into *Europe* from the *Indies*.

Mocca on the *Red Sea*, two Leagues distant from the *Streights* of *Babelmandel*, is where the *Dutch* have chiefly their free *Arabian* Trade, which is very profitable to them, by reason of the Spices the *Arabians* take from them in vast Quantities, and have in return amongst other things, Frankincense, Myrrh, and many other Gums, Manna, Balsam, or Balm, Aloes, Dragons Blood, (which last is the Product of the Isle of *Jofetara*, not far from *Arabia*) Coffee, *&c.* They likewise frequent the other Ports of *Arabia*, as *Aden*, *Zebit*, *Mascalle* and *Balzora*, where they drive some small Trade, either on their own Account or the *Indians*, who send a considerable Quantity of their Commodities to *Arabia*.

The *Persian* Trade with Foreigners is carried on by the Port of *Gameron* or *Bandarabassi*, which is the only considerable Port of that Empire on the *Indian* Sea, being situated at the Entrance of the *Persian* Gulf, opposite to the Isle of *Ormutz*, so famous for its Trade when subject to the *Portugueze*. The principal Trade of the *Dutch* is in the said Town of *Gameron*, upon which depends that of *Ispahan*, where they pay no Custom for Entry or going out in *Persia*, taking every Year 6000 Bales of Silk at a certain Price. But as that Commodity is not very gainful in *Europe*, they

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have leſſened that Quantity as much as poſſible; inſomuch that in the Year 1664, they only took half what they uſed to do.

Silk is the moſt conſiderable and plentiful Commodity that comes from *Perſia*, and this they work up all manner of ways, wrought and plain, in Gold and Silver Brocades, Carpets and Hangings incomparably rich, and extreamly beautiful.

They bring likewiſe from *Perſia*, Cinnamon, Wool (which is wonderful fine) Pearls and Turquois Stones, *&c.*

The Commodities the Company ſends thither, and which they own they gain moſt by, (that which they bring thence being not very profitable) are Spices, Sugar, Aniſeeds, Ginger, Indigo, Siampan Wood, Vermillion, Frankincenſe, Benzoin, Quickſilver, Lead, Tin, Copper, colour'd Cloths, Linnen from *Suratte* and *Coromandel*, and Piaſters or Pieces of Eight.

The *Dutch* Trade in the Great *Mogul*'s Country, is one of the richeſt they have in *Perſia*; they bring thence great Quantities of all ſorts of Silks, Indigo, Salt-peter, Lacca, Agates, and Ginger.

All theſe Commodities do not only ſell well in *Europe*, but are much eſteem'd and ſought for in *Aſia* and *Africa* itſelf.

Suratte

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Suratte, the only Sea-Port in these Countries, is their Place of greatest Trade: In this Place one may find all sorts of Commodities produced in the Great *Mogul*'s Dominions, sufficient to supply the other Parts of *Asia*, and *Africa*, and even *Europe* itself, and which are transported thither by the *English*, *Dutch*, *Persians*, *Portugueze*, *Moors* and *Indians*.

The *Dutch* Company send chiefly thither, Spices, Pepper, Copper, Tortoise-shell, Camphire, Vermillion, Orchalmy, Tin, Benzoin, and several sorts of coloured Cloths, *&c.*

The Coast from *Suratte* to Cape *Comorin*, and which comprehends that of *Malabar*, furnishes them chiefly with Pepper; the Company who possess'd there a great many considerable Places in the Year 1664 entered into several Treaties with the Kings of those Cantons, whereby they engaged to sell them all their Pepper.

They bring from the Coast of *Coromandel*, (in which I include the Kingdom of *Golconda*,) great Quantities of Cotton and Callicoe of all sorts; that which they call Chints, (which is painted with several Colours,) is most valuable of any that is made in the *Indies*, for the Colours never wear out, but last as long as the Cloth it self.

The Kingdom of *Golconda* also yields Indigo, Bezoar Stones and yellow Diamonds.

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The Coast of *Coromandel* is the most important to the Company; in the Year 1663 they brought thence as many Goods as cost two Millions and four hundred Thousand Florins or Guiders, and which consisted chiefly in Callicoes, part of which was sent to *Holland*, and the rest to *Persia* and *Turkey*.

The *Dutch*, to secure themselves the Commodities of the Coast of *Coromandel*, carry thither Spices, Copper of *Japan*, *Malacca* Tin, and Gold Oar from *Sumatra*, Quicksilver, Vermillion, Camphire, Elephants Teeth, Siampan and Sandal Wood.

The Kingdom of *Bengal* which belongs to the Great Mogul, is one of the largest and most fruitful Provinces of *Asia*; Silk, Salt-Peter, and Sugar, are produced here in great Plenty; the Silk is look'd upon to be the best in all *India*; the Village of *Cazambazar*, and the Neighbouring Villages, can furnish 32000 Bales, 100 Pound Weight each, the *Dutch* generally take six or 7000 Bales, and would more, were they permitted; part they send into *Europe*, the rest they trade with to *Japan*.

The Saltpeter Trade is very considerable, for that Commodity is here produc'd in great Plenty, and there is no better in the World.

The *Dutch* have a Magazine or Place for Stores at *Choupar*, four Leagues below *Patua*, where they refine Saltpeter; for if it be not refined

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refined and made tranſparent, 'tis of little Value; and when it is refined, 'tis three times dearer than before: But beſides this, the *Dutch* bring from *Bengal* ſeveral ſorts of woven Silks, and other Silk works, Callicoes, Musk, and fine Rhubarb; theſe two laſt come from the Kingdom of *Boulan*, lying on the North of *Bengal*: The *Dutch* bring hither Spices, Copper, Tin, Lead, Quickſilver, Vermillion, Elephants Teeth, Siampan and Sandal Wood, Cloth, Coral and Amber.

All theſe Commodities are very gainful. The Company, the better to carry on this important Commerce, have ſeveral Store-houſes in *Bengal*. *Ongly*, which is the chief Port, has a Magazine built all of Free-ſtone, defended by 4 Baſtions, and a Fort, with good Ditches, mounted with 12 Pieces of Cannon; and tho' this Place is 30 Leagues diſtant from the Mouth of the River *Ganges*, Ships nevertheleſs ſail thither, by the Care they have taken to facilitate that Navigation.

The Trade of the Kingdoms of *Pegu*, *Siam*, and the Point of *Malacca*, is likewiſe very conſiderable: The firſt of which yields Lacca, Gold, Silver, Rubies and Sapphires.

They bring to theſe Places, Spices, Pepper, Sandal-Wood, Callicoes from *Golconda* and *Bengal*.

Siam is a large Kingdom, well peopled, and produces abundance of Rice, Elephants Teeth,

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Teeth, Tin, Lead, *Siampan* Wood, which (is a good Commodity in all Parts of *India*) as well as Deer-skins, which they trade with to *Japan*: Here is also a great Quantity of Gold, and the finest and most beautiful Porcelain.

The *Dutch* take these Goods, and in return bring to *Siam*, Spices, Pepper, Amber, Red Coral, Quicksilver, Sandal Wood, Cloves, *&c.*

The Company, by a particular Priviledge they have, exclusive of all other Nations, bring hence *Ligor* Tin which they sell to several Parts of the *Indies* and *Europe* at a good Price.

The King of *Siam*, as powerful as he is, trades very much, and sends out Merchant Ships to several Parts of the *Indies*, and even to *Japan*, which makes *Siam*, his Capital City, very Famous for Traffick.

The Trade of the Point of *Malacca* is very considerable; the Company, by means of this important Place, do what they please in the Streights of *Malacca* and the neighbouring Places, *viz. Jor*, *Ligor*, *Jambi*, *Queda*, *Pera*, *Sumatra*, &c. in which there is a great vent for the rich Carpets of *Bengal*, and several sorts of Callicoes of the Coast of *Coromandel*: They bring thither also, Pieces of Eight; and have in return, especially at *Queda*, *Pera* and *Ligor*, good Quantities of Lead and Tin, two very necessary Commodities, and very profitable

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table in the Company's Trade, especially at *Bengal* and *Persia*.

The chief Riches of the Kingdom of *Tonquin* consist in Silks, which is highly esteemed and very beautiful, Musk, Lignum Aloes, *&c.* and by these the Traders of the Country, and the *Dutch*, gain a great deal of Gold from *China*, and Silver from *Japan*. The *Dutch* take off great Quantities of all these Commodities in Exchange of their Spices, Quicksilver, Vermillion, Amber and Cloth, *&c.*

The *China* Trade was always looked on to be the richest of all *Asia*, on Account of the Value and great Quantites of Merchandize transported thence.

The *Portugueze* are the only Nation of *Europe* that have been permitted to settle at *Macar*, and trade openly in *China*.

In the Year 1686, they were still the only People that enjoy'd that Priviledge. I have been informed, by Persons that seem'd to be well vers'd in these Affairs, that the *English* and *Dutch* come into certain Ports of *China*, where they trade by the Authority of the Governour of the Province, neither of them having any Interest or Access to the Emperor's Court, as the *Portugueze* have.

From the very first time that the *Dutch* came into the *Indies*, they try'd all they could to establish their Commerce in *China*, but have

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have ever been unsuccessful in their Attempts.

They conceiv'd, in the Year 1685, great Hopes to bring it to pass; there flew about a Report, that the Emperor being in peaceful Possession of all *China*, in the Design he had to make Trade flourish, was willing to permit all Foreign Traders to come and settle in all Maritime Places in his Dominions: Upon which the *Dutch* Company sent an Ambassador to that Monarch, to desire Liberty of Commerce.

In *November* 1686, News came to *Batavia*, that the Ambassador was arrived in *China*, and 'twas not doubted but he would accomplish his Designs.

Here follows an exact Account of all the Commodities that are commonly brought from China, *viz.*

Woven and Raw Silks of all sorts in great Quantities.

Tin, Copper, Steel, Iron, and several sorts of Tools and Instruments of different Metals curiously wrought.

Cotton, Callicoes, and Fine Camblets.

Hemp and Hempen Cloth.

Great Quantities of very fine Gold.

Precious Stones, Lapis Lazuli, and delicate Marble.

Wood

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Wood of *Aquila*, *Brazil*, and Ebony.
Tea, Sugar, Musk, and candied Ginger.
Quickſilver, *China*-Roots, and Rhubarb.
Pale and High-colour'd Amber.
Porcelain or *China*-Wine, and other Veſſels of fine Earth.
Cabinets, and an infinity of other Wares finely varniſhed, not to be imitated elſewhere.

All theſe Commodities, and many others not here mention'd, are very profitable, moſt of them bring *Cent. per Cent.* and ſometimes more, by reaſon of the ſmall Price they go at in the Country.

All ſorts of Neceſſaries for Life are very cheap in *China*, and the Artiſans, who are very laborious, content themſelves with a very little Profit.

Here follows likewiſe a Catalogue of the principal Commodities fit to be carried into China, *extracted from a Memorial given me by one of the Factors of the* Dutch *Company*, viz.

Spices and Pepper; a great Quantity of the laſt.
Linnen of ſeveral ſorts.
Cloths and fine Serges.
Tammys or Tamines, of all Sorts and Colours; Red, White, and Black are moſt eſteemed.

Elephants

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Elephants Teeth and Sandal Wood.
Amber, and White and Red Coral.
Silver, to buy Gold.

The Inhabitants of *Sokiere* are the only *Chineſe* that go out of their own Country to trade: They go to ſeveral Parts of *India*, particularly to *Batavia*, where a good Number of them have ſettled themſelves.

The *Chineſe* are born for Trade; they are Enemies to Sloth; they think nothing painful or troubleſom, when there is the leaſt Appearance of Gain: They are contented with a little, and what is eaſy to be come at: They are very hardy and enterprizing, dextrous and induſtrious: They have an extraordinary ſubtilty of Spirit; and you muſt have all your Wits about you not to be over-reach'd by them in Dealing, when they have a Mind to it. 'Tis a common Saying with them, *That all Nations are Blind in Matters of Trade; that the* Dutch, *and no other, have the Advantage of one Eye, but for* them *they have two.*

Nothing ſhows more their Abilities in Trade, than their Canals and Communications of Rivers one to another, to facilitate the Carriage of their Proviſions and other Commodities from one Province to another, and their other Conveniences; but the great Care they take to make Proviſions equally cheap in all Places, contributes moſt to make Merchandize

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dize bear a moderate Price, by consequence to have a good Vent.

Japan, a Country unknown before the *Portugueze* discovered it, is a Country of large Extent, where Strangers (that are permitted to trade thither) make very great Advantages.

While the *Portugueze* of *Macar* had this Trade, amongst other Commodities, they carried those of *China* to *Japan*; and in that Trade was expended every Year 1500000 Livres; the clear Profits of which, in 4 or 5 Months time, amounted to 75 *per Cent.*

The *Dutch* Company began to trade there about the Year 1650; and since the Year — when the *Portugueze* were entirely driven out of that Country, the *Dutch* were the only People of *Europe* who were permitted to trade there, which they continue to do with great Profit, but are under this hard Constraint to live in the Peninsula of *Dizamia*, near the Town of *Nagasaqui*, and dare not go out of that Peninsula, without the Governour's Leave, on pain of being cut to Pieces: The *Japaneſe* have such strict Eyes over their Conduct, that they can do nothing but the Governour of the Town knows it, either by Spies, or Guards that are placed at the Gates of the Quarter they inhabit; so jealous and distrustful is that Nation, and this constraint lasts 8 Months; and the Formalities that they are

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forced to observe the rest of the Year, when the Shipping arrives for their lading, is not less troublesome than inconvenient.

The *Dutch* bring to *Japan* yearly, Silk, raw and woven, in great quantities, Cloths, Two Hundred Thousand Deer-skins, One Hundred Thousand raw Hides, a great deal of Hemp, Linnen, Wooll, Quicksilver, Cloves, Pepper, Sugar, Musk, Camphire and Borax, *Siampan* and *Brazil* Wood, *China* ware, Calembac, Elephants-Teeth and small wares (such as the *Chinese* used to bring thither) Silver and Copper, are the principal Commodities to bring thence, and tho' Gold is there very plenty, yet it is prohibited to be carried out of the Kingdom.

There are no Impofts upon any Goods that come or go out of that Kingdom. I cannot tell the Number of the Ships, the Company employs in that Commerce, but generally some come to *Batavia*, and the rest to *Malacca*; when the Company desired so earnestly, that they might settle their Commerce with *China*; it was, because such Commerce seem'd to be, not only of vast Advantage to them in Relation to their Trade in *Europe* and the *Indies* in general, but of great Consequence to them in respect of their Trade to *Japan*.

This made One of their Governours-General express himself after this Manner, upon

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the Subject of the *Japan* Trade in a Letter to the Company.

'If we could but hinder the *Chineſe* from 'trading to that Country, there would every 'Year above Fifty Tun of Gold, or elſe the 'Value of Five Millions to be got by their 'Silks only; for the Commodities they carry 'thither yields 80 *per Cent.* Would to God we 'were the only People that enjoy'd the Benefit 'of that happy Trade, and that the Mine of 'Formoſa abounded with Gold. If my Hopes 'and Wiſhes could prevail, thoſe that are con'cerned in the Company, will be well ſatis'fied, for they will enjoy all the Profits of the '*Indian* Trade without ſending any Money 'from Holland, which is all they have to de'ſire of God in their Prayers.

I have often heard ſay by thoſe who are of the Company, that they would be too Rich, if they did not loſe ſome of thoſe Ships that are employed in that Trade; for the *Indian* Seas are very tempeſtuous.

The Trade of the Iſle of *Ceylan* is entirely in the *Dutch* Hands, being Maſters of all the Coaſts, by reaſon of the ſtrong Places they poſſeſs in thoſe Parts: The King of *Candi* holds the reſt of the Iſland, he was never yet Conquer'd, nor Aw'd, either by the *Dutch* or *Portugueſe*.

The beſt Cinamon is the principal Commodity that Iſland produces, there is beſides a great

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Quantity of Elephants Teeth, and other Goods of leſs Conſequence.

Sumatra is one of the moſt conſiderable Iſlands in the *Indies*, and has ſeveral Kings, amongſt whom the King of *Achem* makes the greateſt Figure; the *Dutch* notwithſtanding may be ſaid to be Maſters there, by reaſon of the ſtrong Place of *Malacca*, which is only ſeperated from it by a ſmall ſtreight; and the Forts and Magazines they have in ſeveral Places eſpecially towards the Weſt, they are likewiſe in Poſſeſſion of a vaſt tract of Land: Beſides they have made themſelves Maſters of all the Trade of the Iſland, by ſeveral Treaties ſigned with the Kings and the other Sovereigns; by which they are obliged to ſell their Pepper and Gold Duſt to no other Nation. Theſe are the chief Commodities of the Country, to which may be added Camphire and Benzoin, theſe Four are moſt proper for the Trade of the Company, who ſell in the Iſland great Quantities of Salt, and all Sorts of Linnen.

Java is an Iſland governed in like Manner by ſeveral Kings, the King of *Mataria*, otherwiſe called Emperor of *Java*, and the King of *Bantam* are the moſt conſiderable: But the *Dutch* Power is ſo great by reaſon of *Batavia* and other Fortreſſes, that I believe it may with very good reaſon be ſaid, they are as much Maſters of that Iſland as they are of its Trade, which is entirely in their Hands ſince they have had

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had *Bantam*; It is certain the Company would make vaſt Advantage by ſelling Linnen and other Commodities if this Trade was not ſomewhat diverted by other Nations trading hither, ſo that the vent of this ſort of Goods was conſiderably diminiſhed in the Year 1688: They bring chiefly Pepper from the Iſle of *Java* and *Bantam*, and before the *Dutch* were Maſters of theſe Places, the Merchants of *Europe* uſed to reſort hither to take in their lading.

The Iſle of *Borneo* is without diſpute, the largeſt in the *Indies*, the Inhabitants the moſt perfidious and treacherous of all the *Indians*, have more than once rob'd the Magazine of the Company, and cut in peices all thoſe that were in it, the better to pillage them: The treachery of thoſe People which is natural to them, is the reaſon that the Company gives them leave to bring their Diamonds and Camphire to *Batavia*.

The Iſland of *Macaſſar* is divided amongſt ſeveral petty Kings, of whom the King of *Macaſſar* is the moſt powerful, and one of the moſt dangerous Enemies the Company has in the *Indies*; this Iſland produces great quantities of Rice, Pepper, Sandal, and *Siampan* Wood. It is ſaid that there is likewiſe Store of Gold duſt and Tortoize-ſhell, Commodities that go off well in the great *Mogul*'s Country and in *Europe*, the Company maintains a conſiderable

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Garrison in the Fort of *Macaſſar* which is a Haven of extream conſequence for the Spice Trade.

The Iſland of *Amboina* and many others of great Reſort, as *Banda*, *Ternate*, *&c.* are poſſeſſed (to uſe the Expreſſion) in propriety by the Company, which makes them Maſters of the rich Commodities of Cloves, Nutmegs, and Mace, which grow no where elſe.

The Iſland of *Amboina* yields only Cloves, which is a Commodity that ſells well all the World over; it is but not the Iſles of *Ternate*, *Bachian*, and *Machian &c.* which are properly ſpeaking the *Molucca* Iſlands produce this Spice as well as *Amboina*, but the Company made the Trees every Year to be rooted up reſerving only thoſe in *Amboina*, which Iſland alone is ſufficient to produce more than the whole World can conſume. The People of this Iſland ſell every Year to the Company or their Officers, their Cloves at a low Price; and they are obliged to take all the Crop if I may uſe the Word, how great ſoever it be; whence it often appears that their Stock is greater than they can poſſibly diſpoſe of.

Batavia always ſupplies the Inhabitants of this Place with Proviſions for their Subſiſtance, for they are very lazy, and 'tis impoſſible otherwiſe to make them work in their Spiceries; the Trade here conſiſting only in Linnen and Cloths, is very inconſiderable.

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The Isle of *Banda* is the only Place that produces Nutmegs and Mace, the Company are entirely Masters of the Trade of this Island, exclusive of all other Nations as well as that of *Amboina*; the Company vend here very few Commodities, except a small Quantity of Stuffs, and such like Goods; the Country being small and ill Peopled, which makes the Company send hither likewise Provisions from *Batavia*.

The *Moluccas* Islands are Five in Number, and are called *Ternate*, *Tidor*, *Machiam*, *Bachiam*, and *Motire*; they are situated on the West of the Isle of *Gilolo*, most of these Islands are no more than Eight or Ten Leagues in Compass, they are all of them very agreeable and pleasant, and tho' they have their Kings, yet the *Dutch* in reality may be said to be their Masters and Sovereigns; by reason of the Forts they have there. These Islands were heretofore very famous and much frequented, on account of the Cloves they produced in such vast Quantities before the *Dutch* caus'd all the Trees to be plucked up.

The Island of *Ternate* is the most considerable, there is a great Consumption in that Place of coarse Linnen, the *Dutch* bring thence Tortoise shell which is very good, but there is but a small Quantity: The Company pays yearly Pensions to the King and other Lords of *Ternate*, as an Acknowledgment for their consenting to the Destruction of the Clove Trees.

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There are some other Islands in this Province, as *Bantam*, *Tidor*, *&c.* but they are very ill cultivated and produces little necessaries of Life: The Company trades thither as well as to those just now mentioned, in Linnen, Provisions, and Pieces of Eight from *Mexico*.

SECTION V.

Remarks on what Commodities the Dutch *bring into* Europe *from the* East-Indies.

I Shall divide into Four Classes the several Commodities that the *Dutch* Company causes to be brought into *Europe* from the *East-Indies*.

The First shall contain Spices and Drugs,
The Second Silks,
The Third Cotton and Callicoes,
The Fourth Mettals, precious and common, Porcelain or *China* ware, *&c.*

I comprehend under the name of Spices, Cloves, Nutmegs and Cinnamon.

There are Two Sorts of Cinnamon, the fine, and common or mild Cinnamon; the fine grows only in the Isle of *Ceylan*, in a small tract of Ground of about Fourteen or Fifteen Leagues

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Leagues long on the Sea ſide, but in reality that Spot of Ground is ſo very fruitful, that it is ſufficient to furniſh the whole World, conſidering the little Conſumption there is of this Spice at preſent.

The *Dutch* who are entirely Maſters of all the Sea-coaſt of *Ceylan*, hinder the Multiplication of theſe fine Cinnamon Trees, on purpoſe to keep up the Price of that rich Commodity; they tell you that they ſhould not ſell greater Quantities were it cheaper: it would be a very difficult Matter to perſwade them to let any One ſhare this Commerce with them, and even in that Caſe it would be very chargeable and expenſive.

There is no young Lover ſo jealous of his Miſtreſs as the *Dutch* are of their Spice Trade.

Their Fleet that returned in the Year 1687, brought into *Holland* 170000 weight of Cinnamon, which was but a ſmall Quantity in Compariſon to what they brought the Year before.

The *Dutch* omit no pains to deſtroy the Trees. They ſay that the chief Motives they had in poſſeſſing themſelves of *Cochim*, was on account of the Damage they received by the *Portugueze* ſelling the wild Cinnamon for that of *Ceylan*, which hindred the Company from ſetting what Price they pleaſed on theirs; and ſelling what Quantities they otherwiſe might.

Though

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Though the *Moluccas* Islands and *Amboina* the chief Places where Cloves grow, are of no very large extent, yet *Amboina* only produces all the Cloves that are used in all Parts of the World; for the *Dutch* who are Masters of these Islands by Means of their Fortresses, have caused all the Trees to be rooted up as I said before, except those of *Amboina*: And to make the King of *Ternate* Satisfaction for that Loss, the Company allows every Year 12000 Crowns Pension, and about 6000 in Presents.

But then the Company is obliged to take all that the *Amboiners* bring them, for which they are to allow them 8. *d.* a Pound.

Nutmegs and Mace grow only in the Isle of *Banda*, of which the *Dutch* are likewise Masters; and they take great care to hinder the increase of these Trees, and have used the same precautions to secure to themselves this rich Commerce, as well as that of Cinnamon and Cloves.

They were not Masters of the Cloves and Nutmegs, till they had conquered the King of *Macassar*, and to rid themselves of all Apprehensions for the future, they obliged him to drive all the *Portugueze* out of his Country, and shut out of his Sea-ports all Ships that should come from *Europe* except those belonging to the *Dutch* Company, which has effectually made them absolute Masters of that rich Trade: For the People of the Isle of *Macassar* being near Neigh-

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Neighbours to those of the *Molucca* Islands used to take under Hand vast Quantities of Cloves and Nutmegs, and sell them to the *Portugueze* and *English* at a lower Price than the Company, which did not a little prejudice their Commerce.

In short the *Dutch* have spared no Pains to secure (to themselves only) the Spice Trade; Spices being Commodities much esteemed and sought after all over the World and wholly possessed by the *Dutch*, have put them in a Condition to dispose of all other Commodities in the Universe: In a Word the Spices are the Basis of their great Commerce, and go as ready Money in a great many Countries.

How great soever the Quantities of Cloves brought into *Europe* may be, they sell yet much more in the *Indies*, where the Company have fixed the Price of Cloves to 75 Stivers a Pound, and Nutmegs after the rate of 60 Stivers when they give them in' Payment.

An *English* Memorial made in the Year 1663 says that the *Dutch* with the Spices that they sell in the Great-*Mogul*'s Country, *Persia*, *Bengal* and *Coromandel*, and all along the Coasts of the Red-Sea both in *Arabia* and *Egypt &c.* buy the Provisions and other Commodities of these vast Kingdoms, proper for *Europe* and other Parts of the World.

To the Spices I may add, Pepper and Ginger.

Pep-

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Pepper grows chiefly on the Coaſt of *Malabar*, and in the Iſland of *Sumatra* and *Java*, of which there are two ſorts, the large and ſmall; moſt part of the large ſort comes from *Malabar*, and is what generally is ſent into *Europe*; the ſmall comes from *Bantam*, *Achem*, &c. very little of this ſort comes to us, for the *Mahometans* conſume almoſt all of it.

Pepper is a Commodity that abounds very much in thoſe Parts, and coſts the *Dutch* but little in the *Indies*: It ſells ſo well in *Perſia*, *Arabia*, *China*, and *Japan*; that thoſe Empires produce nothing but what may be purchaſed by Pepper, which is the only Commodity that goes as ready Money, and by which they get *Cent per Cent* at leaſt.

It is very true that there is greater Conſumption of Pepper in the *Indies* than in *Europe*, and I have been aſſured by Perſons of good Credit and Capacity, that it is more wholſome in thoſe hot Countries than in cold and temperate Climates.

The *Indians* put it whole into their Diſhes or at moſt but bruiſed and never ground as we do, and ſo do the *Mahometans*.

The *Engliſh* have often complained (and not without Reaſon) that the *Dutch* do all they can to make themſelves Maſters of the Pepper as they now are of the Spice Trade, and parti-

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ticularly in the Parliament which was held in the Year 1669, after this Manner, *viz.*

'We are very well assured that the *Dutch* 'have long since had a Design to force the 'Princes and Governours along the Coasts of '*Malabar*, *Achem*, the Western Coast of *Suma-*'*tra* and *Java &c.* and those Princes and Go-'vernours have often reported, that they have 'forced them not only to enter into Treaties 'with them in Relation to their Pepper and o-'ther Commodities of the growth of their Coun-'try, but in their Treaties of Peace, have ty'd 'them up to hinder all other Nations from trad-'ing with them; and have actually made War 'against those who would not accept of such 'Conditions, they have even block'd up their 'Ports and forbid Entrance to other People: 'And by these Means, have taken from them 'all liberty of Trade, till such Times as they 'have made them comply with their Demands, 'which practices tend to the Ruin of the *En-*'*glish* Trade in the *East-Indies*.

Ginger is the Root of a Tree somewhat like a Rose-Tree, growing about *Malabar*, a Town in the Great-*Mogul*'s Country, and which yields the greatest Quantities; and supplies all foreign Parts. The *Indians*, *English*, *Dutch*, and all the People of the North, use a great deal of candied Ginger to warm the Stomach and help Digestion.

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Amongſt the Drugs I may reckon Indigo, Saltpetre, Sugar, Lacca, Ambergreece, Musk, Tea, Rhubarb, Borax, Benzoin, Bezoar, &c.

Indigo is made of an Herb much reſembling our Hemp, they rot the leaves in little Ponds made for that Purpoſe which reduce them to a Kind of Clay, and then a little afterwards it becomes Indigo; all that which comes from the *Eaſt-Indies* (for there is ſome that comes likewiſe from the *Weſt-Indies*) is made only in the *Mogul*'s Country, except a ſmall Quantity that comes from the Kingdom of *Golconda*, that which is made in the Province of *Agra* is eſteemed the beſt.

It is believed the *Dutch* every Year bring into *Europe*, 50 or 60 Thouſand Weight of Indigo from *Agra*, good part of which is ſent into *Germany*, and *Muſcovy*, where they uſe it as as they do in other Countrys, for dying Blue.

Saltpetre as well as Indigo comes from the *Mogul*'s Country *Agra*, and *Pattua*, two Towns in the Kingdom of *Bengal*, yield the moſt: This is a very conſiderable Article in the *Dutch* Trade, and from thence they bring vaſt Quantities and as good as any in the World. The laſt Fleet that came from the *Indies* on the Companies Account, brought 28170 Quintals which was all conſumed in *Holland* in making Gun-powder for the Republick.

There

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There is also in the said Kingdom of *Bengal* much coarse Sugar, which the *Dutch* buy in great Quantities to refine in *Holland* and sell afterwards with great Profit.

Lacca is particularly to be had in the Kingdoms of *Pegu*, and *Azen*, and in the Provinces of *Bengal* and *Guzzoratte*: It is a Kind of Gum which exquisite Production is made by a Sort of *Indian* Ant or Pismire, much after the same Manner as the Bees make their Honey.

There is red Lacca and black, but there is nothing the Quantity of the black as the red Sort; out of the red, the *Indians* have the Secret to extract that beautiful Scarlet Colour with which they dye their Silks and Callicoes, and they make it serve for any other Colour they please; they also use it to lacquer their fine Cabinets and other *Indian* Works, and to make a Kind of Sealing-Wax. 'Tis a good Commodity for the *Dutch*, for it costs in *India* generally Ten Stivers a Pound, and they sell it to us at Ten Stivers an Ounce after they have mix'd with it half the Quantity of Rozin, which makes their Gain exorbitant.

Rhubarb is the Root of a Plant of great virtue in Physick, it grows in great Quantities in *Tartary*, and particularly in the Kingdom of *Boutan*, as well as in *China*; however the most understanding Traders agree, that which grows in the Kingdom of *Bouton* is the best: Rhubarb

said

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said something of this in the Chapter of the *Levant* Trade.

The fineſt Musk comes alſo from the Kingdom of *Bouton*, and there is no Country in *Aſia* where there are ſo many of thoſe Animals that produce it as in that Kingdom, which is ſituated between the Great-*Mogul*'s Country and *Tartary*, and little known to the People of *Europe*.

The Merchants of *Aſia* go into this Kingdom to buy this Commodity, there comes a great deal by the Way of *Pattua* a Town in the Kingdom of *Bengal*, where the People of the Country, and the *Dutch*, and *Portugueze* generally buy it; there is a far greater Conſumption of it in *Aſia*, and eſpecially in *Perſia*, *Turky*, *&c.* than in *Europe*; it grows in a little Bladder of the bigneſs of a ſmall Hen's Egg, between the Navel and the Privities of thoſe Animals that produce this precious Commodity.

Amber-greece is only to be had in the Eaſtern Countries of *Africa*, but chiefly on the Coaſt of *Melinda* near the Mouth of *Rioſena*, the *Portugueze* Governours of *Mozambique*, lay up great Quantities which they carry with them into *Europe* and ſell for vaſt Sums.

Tea grows in ſome Provinces of *China*, and is nothing but the leaves of a Tree that grows about Twelve or Fourteen Foot High, and which they gather in the Spring Time, taking only

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only the Leaves about the Branches; as soon as these Leaves are gathered, they dry them in Copper Pans over the Fire, continually shaking them till they are dry; after that they put them in Leaden Boxes. There is a great Quantity grows in *Japan*, and the *Dutch* furnish themselves thence with this Commodity as well as from *Cochin-China*, the *Japan* Tea is better than that of *China* and *Cochin-China*; the best *China* Tea costs at *Surat* but twenty pence a pound, which the *Dutch* sell in *Europe* for twenty Crowns, and the worst Sort for 25 and 30 Livres.

The *Dutch* have been often accused of mixing with the Tea they bring into *Europe*, the Leaves of young Sage, which has a strong Taste and brisk Flavour, and when dryed in an Oven is not unlike Tea; but People may very easily be imposed on, and I am pretty well assured that they bring a great deal of Sage prepared after this Manner into *China*, where they sell it very dear.

I shall purposely omit what may be said of Borax, Camphire, Benzoin, and Bezoar; that I may come to the Raw and Woven Silks, since these Commodities make One of the greatest Articles in their *Indian* Trade: They have their Silk chiefly from *China*, the Kingdoms of *Tonquin*, *Tipara*, *Azem*, *Bengal*, and *Persia*; the Silks are of several Sorts.

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That of *China* is the finest and whitest; that of *Tonquin* is also very good and soft; People are of Opinion that these of *Tripara* and *Azem* are much coarser; the *Bengal* Silks are rough and without any gloss or lustre, for which Reason there is not much Consumption made of them but in the Manufactures of *Holland* and *Hamburgh*: That of *Persia*, which is full and large, is only good to make coarse Laces and Galloons, Silk Thread and Twist, and there is scarce Twenty Pound in any Bale whatsoever.

There is a Sort of Silk in *China*, and in the Kingdom of *Azem*, which is spun upon Trees and Bushes by a Kind of Animal like a Caterpiller, but not round as that of the Silk-worm, but in a flat thread of a vast length, which, by the blowing of the Wind, fixes it self to Shrubs and Bushes: Of this Silk they make Stuffs somewhat coarser than what are made of the other Sort, though much stronger.

They weave Silks of all sorts in several Countries and Provinces of *Asia* where raw Silk is produced, except in the Kingdom of *Tripara*, which sends its raw Silks to *China*.

All this Empire produces a prodigious Quantity (for I've been assured that the Province of *Cheng* produces as much as all the World besides) they weave Silks here in such great Quantities, as is almost incredible

They

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They make Silk Stuffs, Cloth of Gold and Silver, Sattins of all sorts of Colours, Damasks and other Silks which they call in *China* Pelings, Gentings, and Panhens.

They make these Stuffs for the most Part in the Province of *Canton*, where they are sold at a moderate Price; One may get *Cent per Cent* to sell them again if bought at the First Hand.

I shall say nothing of their Beauty and Goodness, for they are well known to all *Europe*.

The *Chineſe* (if One may credit their Historians) have made Silk Two Thousand and Fourscore Years before the Birth of Christ, however it is certain other Nations knew it long after the *Chineſe*, and it was by their Means that this Manufacture went from *China*, into the *Indies* and *Perſia*. Two Monks who had travelled into that Country, at their Return to *Italy*, taught First the *Romans* in the Time of the Emperor *Juſtinian*, the Manner of feeding and bringing up of Silkworms, and since that Time the *Italians* who traded to the East, brought this Secret into *Europe*.

In the Great *Mogul*'s Country, they make likewise a great many Sorts of rich Stuffs of Silk, some all Silk, some with Gold and Silver as they do in *Perſia*. But enough of this Subject: I come now to speak of

Cotton and Callicoes, which are a great Article in the *Dutch East India* Trade.

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Cotton grows in great abundance in the Great *Mogul*'s Country, on the Coasts of *Coromandel*, *Bengal*, *and China*; they make in all these Countries a prodigious Quantity of all Sorts of Callicoes, but chiefly in the Empire of the Great-*Mogul*.

The Callicoes are both White and coloured, the White are generally the finest, and have commonly a stripe of Gold or Silver running all along the Piece, and many have those stripes at each End; sometimes they are embroidered with Flowers. These Callicoes are very dear and bought by Persons of Destinction for Scarves, Quilts, and Veils, Handkerchiefs, and Cravats; they sell great Quantities in *Persia* and *Turky*. There are some Callicoes wonderfully White and so very finely wrought, that One can scarce see the Threads, and these are generally kept for the Use of the Women in the Great-*Mogul*'s Seraglio.

The fine Muslins come from the Kingdom of *Bengal* where they are made, the coloured Callicoes are called Chintz or Chittes, some of which are printed with a Mould, others painted with a Pencil; and in reality, the variety of the Design and the fine colourings of these Cloaths are wonderful.

These that are painted the finest, are made in the Kingdom of *Golconda* and in the Country about *Mazulipatam*, that Sort which they call Basfas are only Dyed with one Colour

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as Red or Black, of which as well as the White there is a great Consumption on the Coast of *Melinda*, and in the Emperor of the *Abyssin*'s Country; the *Philippine* Islands of *Borneo*, *Sumatra* and *Java*, &c.

Next to the Spices, the Callicoes and other Cotton Stuffs make one of the most considerable Articles in the *Dutch East-India* Trade; for besides those surprising Quantities they bring into *Europe*, which may be seen by the Catalogues or Lists of their Cargoes, the Company sells no less in the several Countries of *Asia* where they Trade to.

I take no Notice of Cotton Thread brought into *Europe*, Cloth made of the Bark of Trees, *Persian* Wooll, and the fine Woollen Carpets made at *Agra*.

Tho' the People of *Europe* who trade to the *Indies* bring back neither Gold nor Silver, but on the contrary carry both into these Countries, I shall in few Words give an Account of the Places where these valuable Mettals are to be had, and which are so very necessary for the *Dutch* Company to make their Trade flourish in the *Indies*.

There is a great Quantity of Gold in many Places of *Asia*, especially in *China* and *Japan*; in the Kingdoms of *Pegu*, *Siam*, *Azem*, *Tripara*, and *Camboya*, and in the Islands of *Sumatra* and *Macassar*: But *China* is the Country of all *Asia* where it most abounds, not but

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that they have very rich Mines of Gold in *Japan*, but there is none ever suffered to come out; the Emperor having prohibited it under severe Penalties, and his Commands are rigourously observed.

As the *Chineſe* are very fond of Silver, and have very little of it, they make no Difficulty to give their Gold for Silver; and there is vaſt Profit to be made by thoſe who know how to manage this Exchange.

They omit no Pains to get the Piaſtres or Pieces of Eight of *Mexico*, and they get good Quantities by the People of the *Philippine* Iſlands, who Trade to *Mexico*.

Silver Mines are nothing near ſo numerous in *Aſia* as thoſe of Gold, and indeed there ſeems to be but very little Silver there; ſince there is ſcarce any Prince from the Great-*Mogul*'s Country to *Japan* that coins any Money: In Truth the riches of the Mines in the *Mogul*'s Country are ſo great, that they pay for all Goods brought thither in Gold as they do in *China*; and as the *Dutch* are the only Nation in *Europe* that Trade to *Japan*, and their Trade to that Country is very conſiderable; ſo they bring thence a great deal of Silver which generally is in Pieces of the Value of our Crowns, they carry almoſt all that Money into the Great *Mogul*'s Country, where *Commiſſioners of Money* give them 3 *per Cent* more than they will fetch our Crowns.

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The *Dutch* bring from *Japan*, a ſort of Red Copper which is excellent and much better than moſt of what is in *Europe*, being ſofter and more malleable and pliant, which makes it 25 *per Cent* dearer: The Company carry much of it to the Coaſts of *Coromandel* and *Bengal*, and diſpoſe of it to great Advantage; that which they bring into *Europe*, is ſent to *Aix la Chappel* to be workt up there in ſmall and large Veſſels, Copper Furnaces, *&c.* and good Quantities of it is employed in the Foundery for Cannons, *&c.* their *Indian* Fleet in the Year 1694, brought 27650 Pound Weight, and thoſe that have come ſince, have brought Six Times as much.

Tin and Lead abound very much in the Kingdom of *Siam*, and towards *Malacca*; the *Dutch* have the Privilege to buy thoſe Commodities at *Ligor*.

The Tin Trade is very profitable to the *Dutch*, and they buy it with *Bengal* Carpets and *Coromandel* Linnen, which they purchaſe very cheap. Tin ſells very well in other Sea Ports in the *Mogul*'s Country, and in *Perſia*, and *Arabia*: The *Dutch* have often brought into *Europe* very great Quantities of Tin, their Fleet in the Year 1694, brought about 28845 Pound Weight, and what they have brought ſince, is Five or Six Times as much, which they ſell with vaſt Profit, though it is very fine and they ſell it cheap.

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What remains now, is that I ſpeak a few Words about Pearls and precious Stones, Porcelain or *China* Ware.

The Diamond is no where to be found but in Four Countries of *Aſia*.

The Firſt Place is the Kingdom of *Viſapore*; the Second *Golconda*; the Third the Kingdom of *Bengal* ſubject to the Great *Malgul*; and the Fourth is the Iſle of *Borneo*.

It is believed that the Mine of *Bengal* is the oldeſt in the World.

That of *Viſapore* was only known about 200 Years ago.

The Mine of *Golconda* which is Seven Days Journey from the Capital of that Name, has been known no more than 120 Years, yet I have been inform'd that it is the richeſt and moſt frequented of any, it employing conſtantly above 60000 People.

The *Portugueze* are ſuppoſed to bring into *Europe* the moſt Diamonds of any People; perhaps on Account of their Trade which to this Day is ſtill carried on in *Goa* the chief City of the *Indies* for Traffick, eſpecially for Oriental Pearls.

The other precious Stones of ſeveral fine Colours come likewiſe out of *Aſia*, but are only found in the Kingdom of *Hava* (which is in ſubjection to the King of *Pegu*) and in the Iſle of *Ceylan*.

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The Mine of the Kingdom of *Hava* is in the Mountain of *Capelan*, about Two Days Journey from *Ciren* the Reſidence of the King of *Pegu*; this Mine produces great Quantities of Rubies, Sapphires Blue and White, Topazes, Hyacynths, and Amethyſts; of which the King keeps always the moſt beautiful.

They find likewiſe Rubies, Saphires, and Topazes, much finer and more beautiful than thoſe of *Pegu*, in a River which falls down the Mountains that are in the middle of the Iſle of *Ceylan*.

Turquoize Stones come from *Perſia*, the Mine is in the Mountain of *Pirouskoua* three or Four Days Jouruey from the City of *Meſcheda*.

The old Rock is now kept for the Royal Family only, the Turquoize Stones of the new Rock being nothing near ſo good; having not ſo fine and lively Colour as the old Rock.

The Mine of the fine Oriental Agates, is in the Province of *Camboya*.

Pearls are fiſhed for in the *Perſian* Gulph round the Iſland of *Barhem*, belonging to the King of *Perſia*; they fiſh for them alſo over againſt the Coaſt of *Arabia-Felix* near the Town of *Catiff*, which belongs to an *Arabian* Prince. The Pearls of theſe Two Places have a Yellowiſh caſt; the greateſt Part of theſe Pearls they ſell in the *Indies*, the other in the Provinces of *Aſia* and *Muſcovy*, where they are not ſo diffi-

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difficult as in *Europe*, about the Shape and Water of Pearls.

There is also a Fishery for Pearls, in the Streight of the Isle of *Ceylan* near the little Isle of *Manar*, now in Possession of the *Dutch* Company; they will have it, that these are the finest in all the East for roundness and Colour, but very few of them Weigh above Three or Four Carats.

There are Pearls to be found on the Coast of *Japan*, of a very beautiful Water and of a good large size, but this Fishery is much neglected, the *Japoneſe* as well as the *Chineſe* never troubling themselves much about Pearls or precious Stones.

The *Dutch* Company besides these Pearls just now spoken of, send into *Europe*, another sort of Pearl which they sell by the Ounce, and for which they have a considerable vent.

Porcelain, or what we call China ware, is only made in *China* and *Japan*; but that of *China* is much more valuable.

The Earth they make this last sort of China is only found and prepared near the Town *Ojenchen* in the Province of *Viangly*, and where only they make it; for the Waters of no other Place can give such beautiful Lustre to the Colours, or make the Work transparent: There are several sorts of China or Porcelain, some have a White Ground, some Yellow, Red, and Blue; the *Chineſe* carry a great Deal of this Ware

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Ware to *Batavia* and other Places, and diſpoſe of great Quantities.

There are alſo great Quantities of China or Porcelain as well as other Goods, brought into *Europe* from the *Indies* by the Fleet from *Mexico* or *New Spain*, and which come thither in the Ships belonging to the *Philippine* Iſlands.

One may reckon among Porcelain or China Ware, thoſe earthen Pots the *Chineſe* make their Tea in, and of which they bring great Quantities into *Europe*; they make theſe Pots at *Kiantz* and *Guihinig*, thoſe that are made in this latter Place are eſteemed the moſt (tho' not ſo beautiful as the others,) becauſe they give a fine Taſte and Flavour to the Liquor, which the *Chineſe* admire.

They bring alſo from *China* and *Japan*, Cabinets, Boxes, Fans, Trunks, and ſeveral other Things of that Nature, of admirable Workmanſhip and delicately varniſhed.

I come now to conclude theſe Remarks, and ſhall only add in ſhort that of the ſeveral Sorts of Wood that the Company cauſes to be brought from the *Indies*, either for Joyners Work, Phyſick, or Dying; the principal are Aquila Wood, Siampan, (which is the ſame as Brazil) Lignum Aloes, Sindal, and Roſe Wood, Ebony, Calambour, Catatour, and Cocoa; moſt of which ſell very well even in the *Indies*.

All theſe ſorts of Goods are brought into *Europe* by Ships belonging to the Company, which

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which Sail generally from *Batavia* and the Isle of *Ceylan*, which are likewise the Places of Rendezvouz for those that come from *Coromandel* and *Bengal*.

But the general Rendezvouz of all Shipping that come from the *Indies* into *Europe*, is almost always at the *Cape of Good-Hope*, whence afterwards they Sail altogether for *Europe*; sometimes indeed it so falls out, that the First Squadron does not stay for the Second, especially if they have waited long for their arrival.

They Sail generally from the *Indies* in the Month of *December* and *January*, and come into *Holland* towards *July* and *August*, and sometimes later.

The Directors of the *India* Company make Sale of their Goods in *Holland* twice a Year. When the Company has resolved upon a Sale, they send printed circular Letters to every Town of the united Provinces, in which are inserted the Names and Quantities of such Goods they Design to make Sale of and the Time and Place, when and where such Sale is to be made: One Half is generally sold in the Chamber at *Amsterdam*, the Fourth Part at *Middleburg*, and a Sixth in the several Chambers of *Delft*, *Rotterdam*, *Horn*, and *Enchuysen*; and these Goods are sold to the highest Bidder.

The Ships that bring into *Europe* the Returns from the *Indies*, bring likewise the Books and Memoirs concerning the Trade of the Com-

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Company, with a general Ballance of the Profits, Disburſments and Loſſes they have had in their *India* Trade.

The Company cauſes alſo in *Holland* a general Account to be made in the Month of *May*, Copies of which they cauſe to be publiſhed, ſo that every Body knows by that whether the Company has loſt, and how much their Funds are encreaſed, and the Stock riſes and falls accordingly.

CHAP. XIV.

Of the Government of the Company both in Europe *and* Aſia, *its Power, Policy, and Profits.*

THough the Company which is compoſed of Threeſcore Shares is but One Body, and has but One common Purſe, it is nevertheleſs divided into Six Chambers, *viz.*

1. The Chamber of *Amſterdam* which has Half a Share.
2. The Chamber of *Middlebourg* which has a Fourth.
3. The Chamber of *Rotterdam.*
4. The Chamber of *Delft.*
5. The Chamber of *Horn.*

6. The

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6. The Chamber of *Enchuysen*, which Four laſt Chambers altogether have only One Quarter or Fourth Share.

In the Chamber of *Amſterdam* there are 24 Directors, of whom Twenty are Citizens and Magiſtrates, except Five or Six Merchants, who govern almoſt all what concerns Sales and Purchaſes, for the Company, and Proviſions: Theſe Twenty Directors have each of them Three Thouſand Guilders Penſion, the other Four have only Twelve Hundred, and are nominated by the Towns of *Tergou*, *Utrecht*, *Dort*, and *Leyden*.

The Chamber of *Middlebourg*, has Thirteen Directors who have each 2500 Guilders Penſion.

To be Director, a Man muſt neceſſarily have Two Shares in the Stock, and be in the Regiſters of the Company.

Every One of theſe Chambers nominates a certain Number of Directors which are deputed to compoſe the Aſſembly or Court called the Seventeen.

Amſterdam names Eight.
Middlebourg Four.
The other Chambers, One each.
Middlebourg, *the Meuſe* or North *Holland* names One alternately.

Thus

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Thus the Chamber of *Amſterdam* having Eight Voices of the Seventeen, has only One to gain, to carry every Thing as they pleaſe.

The general Aſſembly or Court of Seventeen is held only twice or thrice a Year moſt commonly at *Amſterdam*, and ſometimes at *Middlebourg*; this Court or Aſſembly by plurality of Voices, reſolves all Matters relating to Shipping, ſale of Goods, and Dividends, and names the Governour General of the *Indies* for Trade.

In a Word the Aſſembly of Seventeen, decides generally all the Affairs of Conſequence relating to the *Eaſt-India* Company.

This famous Company governs all the Territories the *Dutch* poſſeſs in the *Indies* which are very conſiderable, as alſo all Commerce which is managed by a Council of State arbitrarily choſen and whoſe Reſidence is in *Batavia*.

This Council is compoſed of a Governour General who is their Preſident, and has Two Voices.

A Director General.

Six ordinary Counſellors of State.

And as many extraordinary as the Company ſhall think fit.

The Governour is alſo their Generaliſſimo in all Military Affairs on the other Side of the *Cape of Good Hope*.

He has under him a Major General.

Particular Admirals

And

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And the Admirals of each Squadron.

The Office of Governour General is only to give Orders, and is accountable to none, they chuſe him every Three Years, but commonly he is continued on as long as he lives; for 'twould coſt the Company too much to have a Governour General get an Eſtate under them every Three Years.

The Company allows him every Month 800 Crowns Penſion, and 500 Crowns more for his Table, beſides the Entertainment of all his Family, which is a very conſiderable Expence.

He has a Key to every Magazine and can take out what he will, without giving an Account to any One.

It may be ſaid his Authority in ſome ſort would equal that of the late Princes of *Orange*, was it not in the Company's Power to revoke it when they pleaſed; for in Effect he is *Stadtholder*, *Captain General*, and *High Admiral* of the *Indies*.

His Court is more Pompous, his Train more Magnificent than was that of thoſe Princes, and ſurpaſſes even ſome Kings in *Europe*. When he goes out 50 Horſe Guards go before his Coach, which is followed by a fine Company of Foot, 12 Pages walk of each ſide of his Coach and all very richly and Magnificently dreſt. When he gives Audience to the Ambaſſadors of the *Indi-*

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an Kings, 'tis with extraordinary Pomp and Splendour.

All which ſerves very much to gain Admiration and Reſpect from the People of *Aſia* who are mightily taken with outward ſhow and finery. In a Word there are few Kings in *Europe* who make ſo ſplendid a Figure and Appearance as this Governour General, eſpecially if he be a Man of good Senſe, for then it is in his Power to govern the Council as he pleaſes: The World has ſeen an Example of this in the Perſon of Monſieur *Speelman*; who did every Thing after his own Way, made War and Peace when he pleaſed, and the Company's General that ſtood in awe of him approved of every Thing he did.

The Director General who is the ſecond Perſon of the Council of State in the *Indies*, has every Thing in his Hands, and is anſwerable accordingly.

The Votes of the extraordinary Counſellours are not reckoned in any Debate, when the General and the ſix ordinary Counſellours of State are preſent.

When a Counſellor dies or any other Member of the Aſſembly, 'tis in the Power of the Counſellours to appoint his Succeſſor, who muſt be confirmed by the general Company; if I am not much miſtaken Monſieur *Champtiſſe* who ſucceeded Monſieur *Speelman*, was choſen by the Council, and confirmed by the Company.

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Besides these, there are Two principal Merchants whose charge is to see the Ships lade and unlade; these are very considerable Posts, and are esteemed the best, next being of the Council.

There are six Governours of Provinces, *viz.*
The Governour of *Coromandel.*
The Governour of *Amboina.*
The Governour of *Banda.*
The Governour of *Ternate.*
The Governour of the Isle of *Ceylan*, and
The Governour of *Malacca.*

I have been assured that these six Governours are all Absolute in their respective Provinces, and that they cannot be displaced by the Council of *Batavia.*

The particular Governours of all the Places from the *Cape of Good Hope* are called Commanders, I don't know if the Council of *Batavia* has the Nomination of them, or the Assembly of *Seventeen*; however I am certain that the Assembly nominates the Governour of the *Cape of Good Hope.*

The General and his Council chooses all the Commissioners, Merchants and Subaltern Officers; however, if any one is recommended by the Sharers, they take care to provide for him very well.

Besides

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Besides the Council of State, at *Batavia*, there is a Council of Justice who are Supreme Judges of all Process Civil and Criminal, and have even the Power to try the Governour General, and condemn him to Death, if found guilty of Treason.

The *Dutch* Company, the better to carry on Trade in the *East-Indies*, to secure the Country and all Forts and Magazines or Store-houses they are in Possession of in those Places, maintain a Hundred and Fourteen Vessels, from Thirty to Sixty Pieces of Cannon, and above Five and Twenty Thousand Men, Officers, Common Soldiers, and Seamen in their Pay.

The Company maintains in the *Indies* in all Twelve Thousand regular Troops, but in every Place where there is a *Dutch* Garrison, there are always great Numbers of the Natives capable of bearing Arms, which they always put in the Front when they go to Battle.

I have been informed that in these different Countries, the Company have, besides their regular Troops, above a Hundred Thousand Men able to carry Arms.

The Major General commands all the Troops under the Governour General, he is the Second Person in the *Indies*.

The Company in Time of War augment their Forces both by Sea and Land, and be-

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ſides their ordinary Veſſels, can equip Fourty of the larger Sort; there are many Crowned Heads in *Europe* who would find it very difficult to do as much.

However all the great Power that this Famous Company has in the *Indies*, is nothing but the Reſult of the Induſtry of a ſmall Number of Men, of about 60 Subſtantial and underſtanding Traders, firm and conſtant in their Undertakings, and who want nothing of being ſo many Sovereign Princes but their Independance on the States General: In other Reſpects this Famous Company is looked upon as abſolute in *Holland*, and in all other Places nominates all Magiſtrates, Admirals, Generals, and all Governours; ſends and receives Ambaſſadors to and from Kings and Sovereign Princes, makes Peace and War when ever it pleaſes, and by its own Authority adminiſters Juſtice, inſtitutes Officers to execute it abſolutely in its own Name; puniſhes and pardons Crimes, gives Rewards and Preſents worthy the Grandeur and Magnificence of Kings; eſtabliſhes Colonies, builds Forts, levies Troops, maintains Armies and great Garriſons, fits out Fleets of Men of War, and coins Money.

It is eaſy to diſcover by this Account, that the *India* Trade muſt bring immenſe Treaſures to the Company; beſides the Dividend the Company makes every Year to the Sharers, it ſupplies thoſe exorbitant Expences which it is obliged

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obliged to make in the *Indies* and *Europe*, to pay all the Officers, Directors, Commissioners, Soldiers and Seamen; in building Fortifications, buying Ammunition for all Places, and an infinity of other Expences, for Building, Freighting and Victualling great Numbers of large and small Ships, for the Maintenance and Augmentation of its maritime Forces.

The Gains of the Company, more than their Expences and Disbursments, amount generally to three Millions of Gold every Year, including the Returns, all Freight paid, which comes to 15 or 16 Millions of Livres a Year, reckoning one with the other, amounting in the whole to 50 Millions of Livres.

The immense Gains of this Company, since their Establishment, excited the *French* in 1664 to undertake this Trade; but Experience has made them know, that what is proper for the *Dutch*, is not always convenient for other People: In short, this Trade that has gain'd them such vast Riches (being Masters of the Spiceries) can never be of advantage to any Country or People, who must employ ready Money in purchasing at very dear Rates, and at second Hand, such Commodities by which they get Twenty for One, or else take from them such Goods as are destructive to their own Manufactures.

This has actually been the Case of *France*; for when the King prohibited all painted *In-*

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dian Stuffs to be worn in that Kingdom, they saw in a Moment their Manufactures of slight Woollen Stuffs recover their Credit.

The Gains of the Company would be much more considerable, if they were served in the *Indies* with an exact Fidelity; the Company is very well satisfied, and has no Reason to doubt, but that the greatest part of the Officers, of all Ranks, employed in that Service, and who have large Pensions and are well paid, do not scruple to raise themselves great Fortunes at the Company's cost: This is visible in those who return from the *Indies*, and who had any Management there, or Authority.

But how great soever the Distance between *Holland* and the *Indies* may be, yet is it not impossible to reform the greatest part of those Abuses the Officers commit in the *Indies*; but most of them being Relations or Friends, and often Creatures of the Directors, are generally incapable of the Employments they are put in, which is the reason they are not over severe in passing their Account; nay, some will have it, that the Directors themselves protect them, and often go Sharers with them.

The Officers of the Company that are in *Europe*, are no less attentive to enrich themselves; and I have been informed, that the Directors who are employ'd in buying Goods, and have the Inspection of all Vessels, or their Rigging

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Rigging and Proviſions, or who are employ'd in managing any other Affair, find always Ways and Means conſiderably to augment their Salary and Fortune.

But nothing ſo much hinders the good Œconomy of the Company, as chooſing Directors out of the Magiſtrates, when by their Eſtabliſhment they were to be all Merchants or Tradeſmen, without any Employment in the Publick, or more particular Government of the State; nevertheleſs, when there is a Director's Office vacant, the Magiſtrates are always intrieguing for the Authority and Salary which they know are annexed to ſuch Office.

Of the ſeventeen Places that the Town of *Amſterdam* has in diſpoſal, there are twelve poſſeſſed by thoſe Gentlemen, who having otherwiſe Employment enough, have not time to attend the Buſineſs of the Company, which requires a particular Application and Attention. The other Sharers have often complained of theſe Abuſes, but without any Remedy.

I ſhall inſert at the End of this Treatiſe, a curious Piece, which will give great Light into the *Dutch Eaſt-India* Trade.

It is a faithful Report of One, who commanded the Fleet from the *Indies* in the Year 1688, which he made to the States-General,

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touching the Posture of the Company's Affairs in the *Indies*.

I am principally moved to make this secret and important Piece publick, to justify, in some Measure, what I have said in Relation to the *Indian* Trade (if any one doubt of the Truth of it,) tho' the *Dutch* take all imaginable Care to hide and keep secret every thing that relates to their Trade in the *Indies*, and which passes with them for a Secret of State.

CHAP. XV.

Of the Trade of the Dutch *Company in the* West-Indies.

AFTER having spoken of the Trade the *Dutch* have in the *East-Indies*, I shall finish this Treatise of Commerce with what Trade the *Indian* Company have on the Western Coast of *America* and other Places.

The *Portugueze* were Masters of all the Trade of these Coasts, and all the neighbouring Islands, by reason of the Forts they caused to be built there, after they had made a Discovery of that Country, in finding out a Passage to the *East-Indies*.

Philip the Second, as I observed before, coming to the Crown of *Portugal*, and having in

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in ſome manner forbidden that State, as well as *Spain*, trading with the *Dutch*, the greater Part of the moſt ſubſtantial Merchants, who ſaw themſelves out of Employment by this Prohibition, reſolved to go and trade upon the Coaſts of *Africa* and *America*, and the neighbouring Iſlands.

The Village of *Moure*, on the Golden Coaſt, was the firſt Place the *Dutch* had leave to trade in; and they knew ſo well how to manage that Advantage, that in a very little time that Village became a Place very conſiderable for Traffick; the *Africans*, who agreed better with theſe new Traders than with the *Portugueze*, flocked thither from all Parts.

The *Dutch* Trade at length encreaſed ſo conſiderably all along the Coaſt of *Guinea*, that before the Truce of the Year 1609, it employ'd above 20 large Veſſels, beſides above 100 of ſmaller Burthen, that were conſtantly employ'd in the Trade of *Cape Verde* and the Coaſts of *America*.

The *Portugueze* not being able to ſuffer that any one ſhould partake of this Trade beſides themſelves, forgot nothing that might exclude the *Dutch*, even to put a Price upon their Heads.

They, on the other Hand, to ſecure themſelves from theſe Perſecutions of the *Portugueze*, in the Year 1612, built, with Leave of the King of *Sabon*, a Fort near the Village *Moure*,

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Moure, call'd Fort *Naſſau*; and ſince that, their Trade went on with great Security and Quiet.

Some ſmall time after their *Eaſt-India* Company was ſettled, having a great deal of Money and Seamen unemploy'd, they began to talk of trading to the *Weſt-Indies*; which Diſcourſe was occaſioned by the *Memoirs* of a certain Merchant, whoſe Name was *John Fleſſinguen*, preſented to the States-General, who were divided in their Opinions thereupon: But thoſe who wiſhed for Peace, believing that an Eſtabliſhment of the *Dutch* in *America* would raiſe invincible Obſtacles, hinder'd the Execution of that Project.

The Truce of twelve Years, which they made with *Spain* in the Year 1609, expiring in the Year 1621, they began to revive that Project; and the States-General having approved it, they regulated every thing that might any wiſe have relation to the Eſtabliſhment of the New *Weſt-India* Company, in hopes that their Republick might reap no leſs Benefit and Advantage by this, than they had by the *Eaſt-India* Company; and all theſe Regulations were made and reſolved upon the 20th Day of *June*, in the ſame Year 1621.

This New General Company, which was ſet up on the Plan of that of the *Eaſt-Indies*, was compoſed of ſeveral particular Companies, that traded on the Coaſts of *Africa* and *America*.

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And there were ſeveral Subjects of *Spain* that entered into the Company under borrow'd Names.

The Funds of this Company were 7200000 Livres, and none but the Company, excluſive of all the reſt of the Subjects of the Republick, could, during the ſpace of 24 Years, trade on the Coaſts of *Africa*, from the Tropick of *Cancer* to the *Cape of Good Hope*; and thro' all *America*, from the Streights of *Magellan* to *Newfoundland*

All the Members of this Company were divided into five Chambers, out of which were choſen nineteen Perſons, to compoſe a Council to decide all Controverſies and Matters of the greateſt Importance.

The Progreſs this New Company made was ſo conſiderable, that the States-General entertain'd great Hopes to make themſelves Maſters of all the South Part of *America*. In ſhort, after thirteen Years War, that Company ſaw themſelves Maſters of *Brazil*, the Provinces of *Fernambouc*, *Tamarica*, *Pariba* and *Riogrande*, and there ſettled a vaſt Trade, to the great Loſs and Detriment of the *Spaniards* and *Portugueze*.

It appears by the Regiſters of the Company, that from the Year 1623, to the Year 1636, they had put to Sea 800 Veſſels on Account of War and Trade, the Charge and Expence of which amounted to 45000000 of Gulders, only

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only for the Shipping, the Rigging and other neceſſary Furniture and Proviſions, and that they had taken from their Enemies 545 Veſſels which they valued at 60 Millions, and the other Plunder, amounted to above 30 Millions.

That *Peter Hem* had taken near the *Havana* the *Peru* Fleet, aboard which he found Seven Millions of Silver, beſides other Goods, Cannon and Stores which amounted to above Ten Millions, and that the Loſſes the Enemy ſuſtained and of which the Company could make no Advantage, came to above 35 Millions; one of their moſt conſiderable Loſſes was that occaſioned by Monſieur *G. Hermite* on the Coaſts of *Peru*, where he deſtroyed in the Port of *Lima* a Fleet of 30 Men of War.

In the Year 1636, the Directors of the Company judging it proper to ſend to *Brazil* a Perſon of Reputation to reſide there, choſe the Count of *Naſſau* to whom they gave the ſame Power and Authority as to the Governour General of the *Eaſt-Indies*.

During the 8 Years of his Government, he added to the Conqueſts of the Company thoſe of *Siara*, *Sirigi*, and *Maragan*: 14 Provinces in *Brazil*, the Company poſſeſſed themſelves of Seven.

The Company likewiſe made themſelves Maſters of the Fort *St. George de las Minas*, the Town of *St. Paul de la Conde*, and the Iſland of *St. Thomas* on the Coaſt of *Africa*.

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In the Year 1640 they deſtroyed in Four Battles ſucceſſively the Enemies Fleet, conſiſting of Fourſcore and Thirteen Men of War, which had on Board 1200 Mariners.

You ſee what the Purſe of theſe Merchants has effected in *Africa* and *America*.

The Truce which the States General in the Year 1641, concluded with the *Portugueze* who had withdrawn themſelves from under the *Spaniſh* Government towards the End of the Year 1640, ſtopt the Progreſs of the Company which in ſome Meaſure was the cauſe of their Ruine; for ſeeing all Things in Peace, they recalled their Governour General into *Europe* in the Year 1644, and remitted all Power and Authority into the Hands of Three People, *viz.* the *Sieur de Hamet* at *Amſterdam*, *De Baſis* a Goldſmith at *Harlem*, and *Bulleſtrat* a Carpenter of *Middlebourg*; Men whoſe Heads were wonderfully well turned for trading, but very ill for Politicks as the Event clearly made it appear. Theſe good Men who thought of nothing elſe but how to encreaſe their Riches and make Commerce flouriſh, ſold Arms and Gunpowder to the *Portugueze*, on Account of thoſe extravagant Prices they gave, and let the Fortifications of their ſtrongeſt Places fall to ruine, neglected furniſhing them with Ammunition and Arms, and permitted the Soldiers when ever they pleaſed to come into *Europe*,

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on Purpose to lessen the Expence of their Garrisons.

This ill Conduct and Negligence gave Occasion to the *Portugueze* to retake from the *Dutch* all they had in *Brazil*, by renewing the War.

At last this War came to an End the Sixteenth Day of *August* 1661, by the Mediation of the King of *England*, who was to marry the *Infanta* of *Portugal*.

By this Treaty the *Dutch* Company entirely quitted all their Pretensions to *Brazil* for a good round Sum the *Portugueze* gave them, with Liberty that they might trade as Friends on the Coasts of *Brazil*, in the Ports of *Portugal* and their Dependencies, and on Condition that the *Portugueze* would regulate the Price of Salt.

There remained at that time to the Company, only the Forts they had on the Golden Coast and *Cape Verde*, for the *Portugueze* had retaken the Island of *St. Thomas*, the Towns of *St. Salvador* and *St. Paul*, the Islands of *Curaxao* and *Tabaco*, and the new Country between *Virginia* and *New-England* which was found out after the Loss of *Brazil*.

The extraordinary Expence the Company were at in the last *Brazil* War, drained them to that Degree, that they who before equalled the *East-India* Company, were reduced to such a Condition, that they could not pay Six Millions

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lions of Guilders, or somewhat more, they had Occasion to borrow upon Interest.

The States General to preserve the Trade of the *African* Coasts and the Places they there were in Possession of, in the Year 1674 formed a new Company composed of the Old Partners or Sharers and their Creditors, the Methods they took and concerted pleas'd both Parties, and this second Company having got a Fund of about Six Millions of Guilders, kept up very well their Trade and Commerce, and got very considerable Sums.

I shall give you here some little Idea of their Trade and wherein it chiefly consists.

Of all the Nations in *Europe*, the *Dutch* are those who constantly have had the greatest Trade on the Coasts of *Africa*, they have there two principal Establishments, one at *Cape Verde*, and the other on the Golden Coast in *Guiney*.

In the little Island of *Goree* near *Cape Verde*, they have the Forts of *Gor* and *Nassau*, where there is a very good Road and excellent Bay; this Port is of great Use and Advantage to them in the Trade to *Cape Verde* which is very considerable, but the Establishment on the Golden Coast is of much more Consequence, their Trade there being now more considerable and rich.

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The two ſtrongeſt Forts, are Fort *St George de las Minas* and Fort *Naſſau*, which are but 4 Leagues diſtant from each other.

The reſt are the Forts of *Achem*, *Danubo*, *Acaro*, *Sama* and *Bouten*.

They Trade likewiſe to other Countries lying along and beyond the Golden Coaſt, *viz.*

The Kingdoms of *Arden*, *Benin*, *Congo* and *Angola*.

The chief Commodities are, Gold, Ivory, Slaves, Leather, Gums *&c.*

Gold is found almoſt every where on the Coaſt between Fort *d'Arquin* near the White *Cape* (belonging ſtill to the *Dutch*) and the Golden Coaſt. The Inhabitants get ſome in their own Country, and ſome from the Neighbouring Provinces of *Africa*, but there is no Place in all the Weſt where there are ſo many and ſuch rich Mines as on the Golden Coaſt, ſo called, by reaſon of the vaſt Quantities of the fineſt Gold that is there produced, this Country being an inexhauſtable Treaſury.

Theſe are the Golden Mines which made the Nations of *Europe* eſtabliſh themſelves in thoſe Climates, by Means or Favour of the ſeveral Forts they have cauſed there to be built, as the *Portugueze* who were the firſt diſcoverers, the *Engliſh*, *Germans*, *French*, *Swedes*, *Danes*, and *Dutch*.

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The Gold furniſhed by the Negores with, is in Ingots, Bracelets, Beads, and other Toys, or elſe in Duſt; their Ability to counterfeit and falſifie Gold is ſo great, that they know how to gild tho' in Duſt, and frequently gild over ſmall Pieces of Copper; and that ſo curiouſly that it is impoſſible not to be cheated, unleſs you ſtand very much upon your Guard.

The Trade for Slaves is undoubtedly one of the moſt conſiderable that the Merchants of *Europe* can make on theſe Coaſts, their different Degrees in goodneſs make the difference in their Price; thoſe of *Angola* are look'd upon to be the ſtrongeſt, this Trade is the more conſiderable and important, becauſe without theſe Slaves 'tis impoſſible all over *America* and the Iſlands to do any thing in the Mines, or to manure the Ground, make Sugar and Tobacco.

The *Dutch* are the only People that deal in Negroes, the *Engliſh* I believe do not concern themſelves about that Part of Commerce, the *French* very little, and the *Portugueze* buy none but for their Colonies in *Brazil* and their other Dominions in the *Indies*.

The *Spaniards* are the People the *Dutch* furniſh with theſe Slaves, and they have entred into ſeveral Treaties with one another for that very Purpoſe to ſettle the Number they ought to be furniſhed with, their Price and the Places where they ought to be delivered, which generally are St. *George de las Minas*, and on

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the Coasts of *Guinea*, or in the Island of *Curazao*, near the Town of *Cartagena* in *America*.

The Article of Ox and Cow-hides, or Leather, is very considerable at *Cape Verde*, all along that Coast to the River *Gambia*.

Besides these Commodities, there is likewise brought a great deal of Wax from *Cape Verde* and *Sierra-Lione*, and other Countries on that Coast; as also Gum-Arabick for Dying, and Ostrich Feathers.

Next to the *Dutch*, the *English* are the greatest Traders on these Coasts.

All those different sorts of Commodities that are brought to the Negroes, do not sell indifferently alike; some are proper only for *Cape Verde*, others for the Golden Coast, and others again for *Arden* and *Angola*, and the Merchants sort them accordingly.

But it is generally said that the best Commodities, and most gainful to be carried to those Coasts, are, Rock-Chrystal, Coral and Lace, but especially Brandies.

All the Inhabitants of the Coast of *Guinea* consume great Quantities of Linnen Cloth half worn, which they think much more convenient than the Callicoes of their own Country, as keeping the Body more cool; and the *Dutch* supply them with great Quantities at very high Rates.

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The *Dutch* Company are yet in Poſſeſſion of ſome of the Iſlands; as, *Curazao*, *Takaco*, *Buenos Aires*, *Doruba*, and St. *Martin*, but in Partnerſhip with the *French*.

The two firſt of theſe are the moſt conſiderable, as having each of them a Fort, and *Curazao* a good Harbour: The Trade of which Iſland conſiſts in the Commodities of the Growth of the Place, as Sugars, Wool, Ox and Cow-Hides.

The Inhabitants of *Curazao* trade with the *Spaniards* in *America*, as I before obſerved, which makes that Iſland of great Importance to the *Dutch*.

I believe the other *Dutch* Colonies in *America* have no great Matter of Commerce; and if I am not much deceived, the Fort of *Surinam* does not belong to the Company, tho' I believe they would willingly buy it, but the Sharers of *Zealand* would never conſent to it; but be that how it will, the *Dutch* have been Maſters of it ever ſince the *Engliſh* delivered it up to them by the Treaty of *Breda*.

This Colony is very ſmall, the Inhabitants not daring to Manure and Till the Ground out of Cannon-reach, for the wild *Indians* give them no Quarter, becauſe they hang'd their Brother *Indians*; and, it muſt be own'd, without much Reaſon or Juſtice.

I ſhall end this Treatiſe with

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A true Report made to the States General, by *Daniel Braems*, (Book-keeper General in *Batavia*, who commanded the laſt Fleet that came into *Europe* from the *Indies*,) concerning the true State of Affairs of the *Eaſt-India* Company, at his departure with the ſaid Fleet, *viz.*

Moſt High and Mighty Lords,

A long and troubleſome Sickneſs which I have laboured under, has hinder'd me, till now, of having the Honour of appearing before your High Mightineſſes to pay my Duty, in giving you in Writing, with a due Reſpect, a faithful Report of the State and Condition the General Company of the United Provinces *in the* Indies *was in at the time I came from thence, which was on the* 19th *Day of* November, *in the Year* 1686, *when I left, I thank Heaven, the Affairs of that illuſtrious and flouriſhing Company in as good a Condition as they could deſire.*

To repreſent to your High Mightneſſes more particularly the vaſt Extent of their Dominions, and the great Trade the India *Company has in theſe Parts, I ſhall obſerve that Order which an Affair of this Nature requires. It is neceſſary I ſpeak of every Place in Particular, and that I lay before your High Mightineſſes, the principal Affairs, in which, I think, conſiſts the Advancement and Preſervation of the ſtrong and*

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and important Provinces of the East, *which certainly are the moſt beautiful, the richeſt, and moſt gainful Conqueſts of the whole* Indies.

I ſhall begin firſt with

BANDA.

The long Poſſeſſion the Company has had of this Place, I don't doubt has given your High-Mightineſſes (by ſeveral Accounts tranſmitted to you) a clear Idea and Knowledge of its Situation and Extent; ſo that I believe it will be needleſs to give thoſe Particulars here: I ſhall, however, ſay, that it is a Place where the Company has almoſt none, or very little Trade by Sale of Stuffs and other Goods, and I believe never may have, the Country being ſmall and ſlenderly Peopled, ſo that the Vent here is very inconſiderable; and as to the free Navigation, which is the only Thing that can bring any Benefit to it, it cannot by any means be granted them, but ought to be abſolutely forbidden them, on account of the Frauds they are there daily guilty of.

This Iſland produces now no more what is neceſſary for Life, ſo that they are forced to ſend to that Place, every Year, from *Batavia*, great Quantities of Proviſions and Neceſſaries; which, according to my Opinion, ought to be conſidered as a Thing contributing moſt to ſe-

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cure the Poſſeſſion of that Iſland; it being certain, that if any Enemy ſhould take it by ſurprize, or otherwiſe, as it might pleaſe God to permit, they would ſoon find themſelves unprovided of all Neceſſaries of Life, and conſequently be forced to leave it, unleſs they could conſtantly furniſh the Iſland with ſufficient Supplies.

Any one may ſee by this true Account, what Advantage the Company can have in trading to this Iſland; and if the Company exports ſome few Commodities from ſome ſmall Farms, yet all that will not near anſwer the Charges they are oblig'd to be at, to keep up and repair the Works; and theſe Expences amount every Year to very conſiderable Sums.

But then if you put in Balance with theſe Expences, the great Profit that the Mace and Nutmegs which the Company tranſports thence to *Europe*, and even to other Parts of the *Indies*, the Thing will have another Face, and ſhow how important and advantagious that Conqueſt is to the Company.

The laſt Shipping that were ſent thither, according to the yearly Cuſtom, to carry neceſſary Proviſions, and bring thence Spices, had a very happy and ſucceſsful Voyage, and return'd, at ſeveral times, to the Harbour of *Batavia*, with a reaſonable Lading of Mace and Nutmegs.

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The Advice we had from time to time, assur'd us, that the Affairs of the Company continued to be in a very good and quiet Condition, and that the Spices grew as well as they could wish; but then those same Advices brought an Account, that they had several Earthquakes, which threw down and damag'd many Houses, and to which these Islands, by their mountainous Situation, lye exposed.

The nearest place to *Banda*, is

AMBOINA.

This Place was formerly taken from the *Portugueze* by our People, and we have the Propriety of it to this Day, which makes the Company the only Masters of the Cloves, that are every Year gathered in this Island, and which are delivered to the Company at a certain fixed Price; and the Company are oblig'd to take the whole Crop, how great soever it be; whence it often happens, that Company is supplied with much more than they can have vent for; by which it appears, that this Island produces more Cloves than can be sold or consumed the whole World over; and 'tis for this Reason that it is now thought no longer necessary to oblige the *Indians* of *Amboina* to plant a certain Number of young Trees every Year, as heretofore they were want to do; and that Custom has been laid aside for many Years.

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It appears by the laſt Letters that came from thence, that the Company's Ships arrived ſafely at that Place; and that there Peace and Tranquillity reigned, that the Iſlanders indeed had received ſome Damage by Fires, at ſeveral times, but that they had given Orders for the future, to prevent the like Inconveniences.

This Iſland and its Fort are very much more expoſed to Attacks, than *Banda*, not only on Account of its Extent, but alſo becauſe there are above threeſcore Thouſand Men, beſides Piracies, and other Inconveniences, which they are almoſt continually expoſed to from the neighbouring Iſlands? ſo that according to my Judgment, I ſhould think it abſolutely neceſſary to provide very ſoon, and that too with the greateſt Caution, the Peace and Quiet of of this little Province, and its Inhabitants, as one of the moſt important Poſſeſſions the Company has in the *Indies*.

Batavia is obliged to furniſh this Country with Neceſſaries for Subſiſtance of Life, in the ſame manner as the Iſland of *Banda*; for the Inhabitants are ſo lazy, it is almoſt impoſſible to make them plow; and as there is but a very little Trade there for Linen, and and other Clothing, the Expences the Company are at to ſupport them, amount to much more than the Gain they can make by the Sale of ſuch Commodities in that Iſland; but then the Vent they have for their Cloves, which

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is very great, overpays that Charge with vaſt Advantage, the Profits accruing thereby being ſix times more than the Expence of ſupporting that Province amounts to.

The third Government of the Company in in the Eaſt *Indies*, is

TERNATE.

This Place muſt be conſidered no otherwiſe than as a Frontier Town of the principal Government beforementioned, the Company being obliged to pay the King, and the chief Lords of his Court, a certain Sum in Recompence for having heretofore conſented, that all the Clove Trees in their Dominions ſhould be plucked up.

By the laſt Advices from *Batavia*, and by the verbal Report of the Sieur *Lobs*, who was Governour, we were informed, that our People lived quietly, and in good Underſtanding with the Natives, and that the Conduct of the King ſince the Company had ſo graciouſly reſtored him to his Throne, was as they could wiſh.

There were great Complaints made, that ſome Servants of the Company were much wanting in their Fidelity, that they were very negligent, and unqualified for their ſeveral Employments, which was very prejudicial to the Company. This is a Diſtemper which has

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ſome time ſince infected almoſt all the Dominions of the Company in the *Indies*, and the Conſequences will be very fatal, if they do not take proper Meaſures to remedy theſe continued Abuſes; for Fidelity and Diligence in Servants, joined with Experience, and a certain Knowledge of Management of Affairs, are, after the Bleſſing of God, the principal Pillars of this great Edifice of Trade; they ought therefore to be maintained and encouraged, as much as poſſible, to bring Commerce to its utmoſt Height, which cannot otherwiſe ever poſſibly be effected.

There is a great Conſumption in this Government, of coarſe Linnen; but the Profits ariſing thereby, and other Incomes, are not any ways proportioned to the Charge the Company are at: The Returns are hardly worth mentioning. The Tortoiſe Shell of this Place is as good a Commodity as can be deſired, and very profitable; but the Quantities are ſo very ſmall, that the two Companies, and their Servants do not find their Account in it; and it is much the ſame with

MACASSAR.

In this Place the Company has a good Fort well ſupplied with Ammunition, and of great Strength, and keeps there a good Garriſon, which is very neceſſary to awe thoſe hardy and

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and warlike People, and hinder them from attacking us at unawares, and driving us out of the Country. The Reaſons that engaged the Company to make War againſt the *Macaſſarians*, was the greatneſs of the Kings of that Country, their Power which encreaſed daily, and their underhand Workings againſt the Company's Intereſt; inſomuch that they were in perpetual Anxiety how to preſerve their Poſſeſſions in thoſe Kingdoms: And as the frequent Murders and Robberies that Nation committed, as well on the Officers and Servants of the Company, as their Friends and Allies, gave them more than ſufficient Provocation to take up Arms againſt thoſe People; ſo the Company were not backward to ſend a ſtrong Power againſt them, and the Undertaking proved ſo ſucceſsful, that that Nation which was once ſo powerful, was conquered, and forced to accept of Peace from the Company on ſuch Conditions as they would give them; and by this means the Fort was ſecured, and that Poſſeſſion, together with the Change of the Government of *Macaſſar*, has put that Nation entirely out of Condition to undertake any thing againſt the Company, ſo that they are very eaſy on that Point.

If the Directors, and proper Servants of the Company, had not been negligent in keeping the Balance of Power, which was very prudently and opportunely put into their Hands, by

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by the Diviſion of Territories, and by the Eſtabliſhment of *Radia Polacha*, who is now become ſo powerful by that Negligence of the Servants of the Company, that at preſent they have reaſon to diſtruſt, and be afraid of him.

In this Iſland there is a conſiderable Trade for Linen, and other Goods; and it is certain, if the Company could engroſs the whole Trade of that Country, excluſive of all other Traders (amongſt which may be reckoned the Commiſſaries themſelves) the Gains they would then have, would be more than ſufficient to defray the Expences they are every Year obliged to bear, and which, at preſent, are more than the Profits, including the Income of the Corn the Company cauſed to be ſown there.

TIMOR.

We have here a Caſtle, but ſmall, and of little Conſequence; however, it is well ſituated for the Company's Trade, which yet is not ſufficient to ſupply the Store-houſe they have cauſed to be here ſet up: They keep it for the Convenience of ſelling of Slaves notwithſtanding, and on Account of the Sandal Wood that grows here, which is a Commodity that has a good Vent, and managed with as much Eaſe as Advantage, both in *China*, and other Parts of the *Indies*; but the Company

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pany who long ſince obtained the Liberty of Trading in this vaſt Kingdom (as it now appears) made much more Advantage of it than they do at preſent.

But however, if the Profit does but balance the Expence that the Company is at, and the Inconveniences they are continually ſubject to from the People of theſe Iſlands, they have reaſon to be very well ſatisfied, and I ſhall ſay no more, leſt I may ſay too much.

But now to come to the Store-houſes or Magazines of the North Patts of *India*; and firſt I ſhall take Notice of

SIAM.

This is a Country of a large Extent, and well inhabited. Our People live in the capital City, where there are very few Commiſſaries, and thoſe moſt of them employed in Writing to take care of the Trade, which conſiſts principally in Deer Skins brought hither from *Japan* to be ſold, and in Tin, which the Company cauſes to be bought at *Ligor*, having obtained that Privilege, excluſive of all other Traders, and which afterwards is ſold in different Parts of the *Indies*, as well as *Europe*, with great Eaſe and Advantage. The Callicoes from *Coromandel* go off ſoon in this Kingdom, and the Company brings thither very little elſe. The Reaſon chiefly is, the Carri-

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Carriage of these Callicoes into this Kingdom, which is made by the free Trade and Communication the Moors of *Coromandel* have with those of *Siam*, to whom they bring these Goods, and sell them very cheap to the People of *Siam*, who have them by these means at the first Hand, and this makes the Commissaries of the Company sell them at the same Price as the Moors; so that it must not be expected we shall drive on any considerable Trade in *Siam*: However, the Magazine there is of much Use and Advantage to the Company, and it was on that Account they were resolved to give all possible Satisfaction to the Ambassador the King of *Siam* sent expressly to *Batavia*, to determine some Disputes, who was afterwards sent back very well satisfied, in one of the Company's Ships. In a Voyage made some Years ago according to Custom, the Company lost one large Ship, called, *The William Henry*, which struck on the North of the Isle of *Bavea* on a Rock, and sunk the next Day to the Bottom; but by good Fortune, all the Cargo was saved, and brought up the River *Palinbourg*, in Shalloops.

The Company's Affairs, at the time of my coming away from the *Indias*, were in a very good Condition, and in that Kingdom the *Walstroon* had made a very good Return in Skins, and other Goods, according to yearly Custom.

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JAPAN.

Is a Country well known in the World for its Riches, and the fine Works of its Inhabitants, wherefore I ſhall ſay nothing here but what immediately concerns the Affairs of the Company, who only have the Liberty to trade thither, excluſive of all other Nations.

We are in Poſſeſſion of a little Iſland in that Country, joining to the Town of *Mangazaqui*, by a Bridge of Communication; but none of our People can go into that Town, ſo miſtruſtful and jealous is that Nation; inſomuch that we are entirely deprived of all Communication and Society with the *Japoneſe*, being obliged to make uſe of Truckmen, or Brokers, who have the Privilege to act, go, and come; which, in my Judgment, is very diſagreeable, and prejudicial to the great Trade we at preſent drive with that Nation, and which makes me believe, that this Practice occaſioned theſe Truckmen, or Interpreters, and the Governour of *Mangazaqui*, to monopolize all the Trade, by taxing, (as they have ſome Years paſt) all Goods, as they pleaſed, for their own Intereſt and Profit, and the great Prejudice of the Company.

They took away from us all means of ſecuring our ſelves from the like Violences by our juſt Complaints, which the Regency of *Bata-*

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Batavia judged proper to be laid before the Emperor, in a very reſpectful Letter, and which was favourably received, and met with good Succeſs, and we had our ancient Liberties reſtored to us of ſelling our Effects and Commodities to the beſt Bidder; but ſome little time after, they laid a new Tax upon us worſe than the firſt; that is, they limited our Trade with them to that Degree, that we ſhould deal with them for no more than what only would amount to a certain Sum, and that certain Sum was fixed to three Hundred Thouſannd Failes a Year, which cannot any ways be ſufficient to procure us ſo much Profit only, as is abſolutely neceſſary to defray the great Expences, and other Charges that the Magazin, or Bank of the Company is obliged to be at, for thoſe large Preſents they muſt give for Maintenance of their Shipping, and the Officers of the Company; beſides the Dangers they muſt meet with in paſſing ſuch a vaſt and tempeſtuous Ocean, before they can arrive at that Kingdom, which is the remoteſt of all the *Indies*.

Many are of Opinion, that this Limitation of Commerce was principally intented to diſguſt the *Chineſe*, who came about that time into *Japan*, with great Numbers of ſmall Veſſels full of People, amongſt whom were ſeveral *Tartars* that had a warlike Countenance, which created in the *Japoneſe* ſufficient Diſtruſt and Suſpi-

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Suſpicion. They were afraid, that the *Tartars* who had been a long while before Maſters of all *China*, and by that means, in a Condition of undertaking great Conqueſts, had formed ſome Deſign againſt their Country, on Account of its happy Climate, and fine Situation; and that they had an Intention to land a great Number of Men, under Pretence of trading with them. To prevent theſe Inconveniences, without letting any one know what were their Views and Motives, the *Japaneſe* made this *hard* Regulation, which they notified accordingly to the *Chineſe*, that they might not for the time to come, bring into *Japan*, a greater Quantity of Goods than they ought, and only to the Value of the Sum regulated: And the better to hide this real Motive of theirs from the *Chineſe*, and that they ſhould not think this Prohibition was directly levelled at them, they included *us* likewiſe, tho' they gave us verbal Promiſes, that it ſhould only be for a while, which we very much hope for, otherwiſe the Company will not be able, without a vaſt Prejudice to themſelves, to continue their Commerce with the *Japaneſe*, which would be more expenſive than gainful.

Some time after our Departure from *Batavia*, and while we lay off *Bantam* with the Fleet, the Veſſel that was bound for *Batavia*, came into the Road, and the others have ſet Sail for *Malacca*, accordiug to Cuſtom. We

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knew that all those Vessels had made (God be thanked) a very happy Voyage; and that the Company had got a good Price for all the Cargoes, which, notwithstanding, would not produce any considerable Gain, as long as that Limitation should subsist.

CHINA,

Where our Ambassador lately arrived, and set out for the Imperial Court of *Pekin*, to desire that great Emperour's Leave to trade thither, few People doubting of Success, there having been a Report spread abroad, that the Emperour seeing himself, at that time, Lord of all *China*, and in quiet Possession of those vast Territories, had a Design to make Trade flourish in his Dominions; and to accomplish it, had permitted, not only his Subjects to trade out of their own Country, but all foreign Merchants to come and establish themselves in his maritime Towns, the Truth of which Time only will discover.

It is very certain, that the *English* drive a very considerable Trade with *China*, or rather with the Islands of *Macar*; and had the Company this Liberty, they would have a great many Competitors of all Nations in Trade, which would very much lessen their Profit and Gain.

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Our People have also made Voyages several Years ago, to the Islands of *Macar*, where they traded in private with the *Chinese*, but it never came to much, while the *English* and *Portugueze* find means to make considerable Returns; for which Reason we made no Voyages this last Season, to those Islands, but sent our Shipping directly to *Chockzien*. These Vessels were only four in Number, but were laden with Commodities of a considerable Value to trade with, under Colour of going to bring back our Ambassador, who, at his Arrival in those Parts, knew how to put off the Goods he brought with him, much better than the Merchants could do at the Isle of *Macar*. It is certain, that the *Portugueze* who bought Pepper at *Batavia*, to trade with in *China*, paid much dearer than our People could sell it for in the very Islands.

One may see by that, and by many other Sales, that the Company is very ill served in those Parts.

TONQUIN,

Is a Place where the Company has some Footing, but of very little Consequence, for since as their Ministers were some Years ago recalled, Trade has but indifferent Success in that Country, and not sufficient to answer Charges; so that all they send thither,

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is but one Veſſel only at preſent, which brings them a certain Quantity of Muſk, for which they pay ready Money.

This ſame Veſſel goes likewiſe to

MALACA,

Which is a Town belonging to the Company, and was taken from the *Portugueze*. This Place is very conſiderable, and much frequented for Traffick, and is the Magazine of the Eaſtern Trade, where all Nations, who have frequented the Seas, met heretofore. At preſent, its Trade is not near ſo conſiderable, not ſufficient to anſwer the Charge; which Inconveniency might be remedied, by ſending thither a good Director; for it is certain, that there is a good Vent in that Town for great Quantities of Linnen Cloth, of all ſorts, as well as in many other Towns, its Dependencies, or which lye round about it; as *Andragieri*, and other Towns, and ſuch Places as lye along the Rivers of *Sierra*, *Perra*, &c. where for the moſt Part the Payments are made in Gold and Tin, which is a Return very rich, neceſſary, and profitable for the Good and Support of the Trade of the Company. *Malaca* is the Rendezvous of all the Veſſels that return from *Japan* every Year with their Cargoes, and which they there ſort and diſtribute, in order to their being ſent to

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the other Store-houſes on the Coaſt of *India*, *Coromandel*, *Bengal*, &c.

The laſt Advices from *Malaca* tell us, that they lived there in Peace, and had a good Underſtanding with the neighbouring Kings and Princes. They have made Governour of that Place *Monſieur Flechier*, who, in the Month of *October* 1619, went thither with ſtrict Commiſſion, to take an exact Account of all Miſdemeanours committed by any Miniſters, Officers, and Commiſſioners of the Company, and puniſh them according to the Severity and Rigour of the Law.

Over againſt this Iſland lyes the Iſland of

SUMATRA;

In which Place are the Store-houſes of *Palmbourg* and *Jambi*, the former of which furniſhes every Year a conſiderable Quantity of Pepper, which they trade with on Account of the Company, according to the Contract made with the King of the Country. The Payment for Pepper is made in Linnens, which has powerfully engaged the Company to preſerve this Trade, as very advantageous to them, and obliged them to aſſiſt that Prince againſt his Enemies, as ſome Years ago they did with very good Succeſs, which gained them ſuch Reſpect with the neighbouring Powers, that tho' that Kingdom has been often threatned by ſe-

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ral Princes round about, yet no one dar'd to invade it, which makes the Company enjoy a very quiet and advantageous Trade. But as for *Jambi*, there is ſcarce any thing to do there: A ſmall Number of Commiſſaries and Servants live there, whoſe Buſineſs chiefly is to hinder the ill Deſigns of the King of *Jambi*, and the Pyracies and Robberies which are often committed on the Weſt of the Iſland of *Sumatra*, where the Company is in Poſſeſſion of a vaſt Tract of Land; and the Places of their Habitation are comprehended under, and known by the Name of *Weſtcouſt*, where there are alſo ſeveral Storehouſes; the Capital City is

PADANGUE.

Here is a very great Trade, and a good vent for Salt and ſeveral ſorts of Linnen; and the Returns conſiſt in Gold Ore, Pepper, Camphire, Benzoin, and other valuable Commodities, which are very proper for the Trade of the Company, and of which they diſpoſe vaſt Quantities in the *Indies*.

'Tis a great Prejudice to the Company, to be ſo ill ſerved as they have been ſome Years ſince in this Place, inſomuch that the Company was forced, in a very little time, to ſend from *Batavia* three Superintendents, or Directors,

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rectors, one after another, and recall'd them to justify their Conduct.

It is certain, if Matters were but rightly manag'd, as the Interest of the Company requires, those Places would become more profitable and considerable than they are, and I may say, that if the Conduct and OEconomy of those, who have the Direction of Affairs, were more regular, the exorbitant Charges, and frequent Frauds, would not swallow up the great Profits that may be made of the Gold Ore that is given in Payment.

I agree, that some Years since our People were very much troubled and molested by the Natives of the Country, on Account of the *English*, who struggled to make themselves Masters of the Pepper Trade, had it been possible; having to that End stirred up several in Alliance with the Company, who therefore found themselves oblig'd to take up Arms, and punish the *Indians* for breaking their Alliance, which they accordingly did, and with very good Success; so that Attempt of the *English* came to very little or nothing, tho' it was very expensive and chargeable to the Company.

From this Trade I shall come to that of the Kingdom of

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BENGAL.

This Kingdom is a Country of the *Indies* on the *Terra Firma*, and the Company have here several Storehouses to carry on their Trade, which consists chiefly in selling Spices, Copper, Tin, Lead, Quicksilver, and other Things, which they sell at a great Advantage; but yet in continual Danger to be molested by the *Moors* in Power, whose Avarice is so exorbitant, that it costs the Company every Year, to keep them in Temper, vast Sums of Money in Presents, which are sent privately to them, as the only Remedy against this dangerous Evil, since the Company's Interest is to live in Peace, and not break with a People, from whom they gain such considerable Advantages in Trade, which they would run the hazard of losing, should they take up Arms to maintain the Liberties and Priviledges of Commerce; and which would not always square with the Interest of the Company; and therefore, as long as the *Moors* of *Bengal* shall not exact more than what is usual to give them, 'twill be better to let things rest as they are: This Method to me seems the most secure and certain, for the Benefit and Advantage of the Company.

By the last Advices from *Bengal*, before we left the *Indies*, we heard that the Fleet called

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called *Strion*, coming from *Malacca*, and which had on Board Monsieur *Nicholas St. Kayen*, Councellor Extraordinary, and new Director in the Streights of *Bengal*, run aground (tho' in pretty fair Weather) on the Shoals of *Isagli*, near the Mouth of the River, and was actually lost on the Sands by the strong Seas; the Men were saved with great Difficulty, and 200 Chests of Silver; but the Copper, with which the Ships were laden, worth 90000 Gulders, sunk to the Bottom, and was all lost.

Monsieur *Wanrek*, Lord of *Midrech*, Commissioner for Trade, has given very good Orders in that Country, and reformed a great many Abuses and bad Customs, being well acquainted with the ill Conduct of the Commissaries in their several Employments, and has dismissed several in this Country, as well as *Batavia*, to justify their Conduct; and it is certain, that the redressing these Abuses would have been attended with many others, had not that Lord been a little short in providing proper Persons to fill up these Vacancies.

COROMANDEL.

The Sieur *Wanrek* was to go in the Month of *May* 1695 to *Coromandel*, to pursue the Execution of his Commission. *Coromandel* is very near *Bengal*, and where the Company have

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have Affairs of higheſt Importance; for, beſides the Town of *Negapatan*, ſituated on the South-ſide of *Coromandel*, which our People took from the *Portugueze*, the Company has in Poſſeſſion the Fort of *Gueldria* (where the Governour reſides) and the Storehouſes or Magazines of *Guenapatam*, *Sadreſpatam*, *Maliſpatam*, *Pelicol*, *Datskorom*, *Beuliſpatam*, *Nagurnantie* and *Golconda*, for the Advancement of Trade in thoſe ſeveral Places, which conſiſts chiefly in Callicoes; as alſo in the Sale of ſeveral Commodities our People bring into thoſe Parts, as Spices, *Japan* Copper, Tin, Gold Ore, and the like. This Trade is extremely profitable and advantageous, but yet expoſed to the Violence of the *Moors* that are in Power; for the Governments of theſe Countries are almoſt always farmed; and theſe Farmers being protected by the Miniſtry, take all Opportunities to extort Money from the Subjects; inſomuch that Foreign Dealers can never ſecure themſelves from being pillaged by theſe Farmers, who are very covetous; and therefore to avoid being diſturbed in their Traffick, are forced to skreen themſelves from theſe Evils by Preſents, which coſts the Company very dear. But theſe Evils are unhappily much augmented ſince about four Years ago, and arrived to that Exceſs, as obliged the Company to take up Arms, and ſeize upon the Town of *Mazulipatam*, to force the King of

Golconda

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Golconda to give them just Satisfaction for the Violence and Injuries done the Company, which in the End came to a very good Issue.

The Occasion of this Difference was thus: The Resident of the Company in *Golconda*, which is the City where the King resides, became Security for a certain Pagan Merchant, for the Value of a Million of Livres, without having any Order or Power to do so, and which was done without doubt in View of some considerable Interest and Advantage; the First Minister of the Kingdom, who was also a Pagan of the Race of *Brammer*, took this Opportunity to make his Market; imprison'd the Merchant, and seiz'd on all his Effects, under Pretence that he was indebted to the King in vast Sums of Money: Our People saw very well how ill-grounded this Pretence was, and represented accordingly the Agreement made with the Company, that no Merchant whom the Company dealt with should be molested, either in his Person or Goods, and that the Company were not previously satisfied their Demands they had on those Merchants; but all signified nothing, and they were obliged to take up Arms; and Matters were carried so far, that the King engaged himself to pay this Debt out of his own Revenues; and thus the Company obtained by Force that Satisfaction they were denied, and freed themselves in a little time from a long War

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War which was very expenſive, and would have been very prejudicial to them, by interrupting their Commerce with this Nation, the moſt Important, and of the greateſt Conſequence of any they have in the *Indies*. The frequent Quibbles of the *Mooriſh* Governours, is the Reaſon why the Company cannot drive a free Trade in that Country, but are obliged to make theſe Trade-Contracts with ſome certain Perſons, and even to truſt them with the greateſt Part of their Commodities all at once, becauſe of the Liberty and Eaſineſs with which they Sell or Truck with the Natives of the Country, and much more advantageouſly than our People can do. Theſe Dealers enter alſo into Societies amongſt themſelves, and gain much more than our People; and this is one of the chief Reaſons that the Company could not get theſe ſort of Contracts with the *Mooriſh* Merchants executed, for vending their Linnens in *Siam* and other Countries.

The laſt Advices from *Coromandel*, told us that our People were very uneaſy at the Approach of the Great *Mogul*'s Army, who having made himſelf Maſter of the Kingdom of *Viſapore*, ſeveral Politicians, and People of good Underſtanding, believed he had an Intention, in like manner, to ſubdue *Golconda*. Time will ſhow this, tho' it be much to be wiſh'd for the Good of the Company, who will then have a free Commerce, which to them

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them will be of the greateſt Benefit and Advantage.

CETLAN

Is a great Iſland, ſeparated from the South-ſide of *Coromandel* only by a ſmall Arm of the Sea: It is very Famous on the Account of the vaſt Quantities of Cinnamon it produces; 'twas this Spice which tempted the *Portugueze* to conquer this Iſland firſt of all, and after them the Company became Maſters of it; that is, of the lower Part, and of the Coaſts round about, the Highlands continuing ſtill in Subjection to the King of *Candi*, whom neither the *Portugueze*, nor our People, could ever conquer, by reaſon of the impaſſable Ways of that Part of the Country he is Maſter of, and other Difficulties attending ſuch an Undertaking: This Prince contents himſelf to be always on the Defenſive, in regard of the Company, which ſome believe is by Reaſon of his great Age, which has given the Opportunity to our People to gather their Crops of Cinnamon without any Trouble or Impediment; but many are of Opinion (and with good Reaſon) that this Happineſs will not continue long, and that the Prince that ſucceeds the old King, will take up Arms, and diſturb the Commerce and the Poſſeſſions of the Compa-

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ny in that important Iſland, the Truth of which time can only diſcover.

The Expenſe of the Company is very conſiderable in Penſions to ſome Towns, maintaining of Forts, Paſſages, Fortifications, Commandants, Officers, Garriſons, and Commiſſaries for the Inſpection of Trade, *&c.* This takes off a conſiderable Part of the Company's Profit, which may be eaſily retrieved by retrenching ſeveral Poſts, uſeleſs Garriſons, and needleſs Officers; and no doubt it will be done in a ſmall time after the Arrival of Commiſſioner *Wanrek* in that Iſland, who will ſoon diſcover a great many Abuſes, and much ill Management thro' that important Government, and bring with him neceſſary Remedies for the good of the Company.

MALABAR,

Of which the Capital City is *Cochin*, and ought to be look'd on as a Member very troubleſom to the Company; for beſides the many Inconveniencies, to which they are almoſt continually ſubject, from Princes of the neighbouring Iſlands, the keeping of only this City and its Dependencies, coſts the Company every Year a far greater Sum than the Income and Revenue amounts to; inſomuch that it may be truly ſaid, they keep this Port for politick Conſiderations only.

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SURATE,

Is a very profitable Magazine for the Company, there being a great Vent for all Sorts of Commodities, which are ſold every Year with conſiderable Gain, and are Cloves, Nutmegs, Mace, Pepper, Copper, Tortoiſe Shell, Camphire, Vermilion, Benzoin, Orchalmy, or Alchymy, Tins, and Stuffs.

They have in Return for all theſe Commodities, ſeveral Sorts of Callicoes, coarſe Silks, both white and painted, and other things of like Nature, but eſpecially Silver Ingots to trade with in *Bengal.* This Country is in the Dominions of the Great *Mogul*, and we are here more ſubject to be diſturb'd by the Mooriſh Governours, than at *Coromandel.* The reſtleſs Avarice of theſe Cormorants is no other way to be quieted, than by Preſents, which ſwallow up good Part of the Company's Profits. They build here very good Ships, which do great Service; and it is certain, if the Company could have them built at a reaſonable Price, it would be of great Uſe and Advantage to them, to build a good Number, the Timber of which they make them, being very ſtrong, and laſting. They will hold out fourty Years at leaſt; and all the World knows, that the Veſſels that are built in *Europe* laſt but twelve, or thirteen Years, at moſt; it is

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eaſy to ſee by this what vaſt Difference there would be, if the Price was equal, or but ſomewhat more.

I doubt not but this may be done, and is a thing deſerves well to be made an Experiment of, at the Return of Monſieur *Warnek*, and during his ordinary Reſidence in this Place.

PERSIA.

The Trade of the Company in this great Kingdom, is at preſent very peaceful and quiet, notwithſtanding the Proteſtations that our People have often made, that they will not, for the time to come, take off ſuch great Quantities of Silk, and this Diſpute is not yet quite ended. The Company have often made Contracts with the *Indian* Princes, which have been very prejudicial, on Account of the Management, and little Experience of thoſe that were employed in ſuch Contracts. It would therefore be very much for the Benefit and Advantage of the common Cauſe, and for the Freedom of Trade, never more to employ and authoriſe ſuch Perſons in the like Negotiations, particularly, in the Courts of the *Mooriſh Mahometans*; at leaſt they ſhould make uſe of able Men, whoſe long approved Experience and Capacity might make them avoid the Deceits, and ſubtile Treachery of the *Moors*; for it is certain, that he that thinks to make any Advan-

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sudden Advantage, or surprize the eastern *Mahometans* in Trade, or Contracts made with them, must rise betimes in the Morning. Time will discover what Success this Affair of the Company will have, which is now in Debate. But this Court having been so dilatory, it is our Part to make Advances to bring this Matter to a Conclusion. Our Ambassadors have been detain'd a long while at the Court of *Persia*, to adjust this Affair, and I believe they will obtain nothing material thence; for to make a quick Dispatch of Business with those People, you must from the very Beginning, as much as is possible, push Matters on with the utmost Vigour, which is the only Way to gain one's Point, and there have been many Examples of this Truth.

When Trade goes well in this Empire, the Company gains considerably, but it is only on the Goods they themselves cause to be brought hither.

BATAVIA

Is the capital City of all the Territories and Dominions the Company has in the East *Indies*, and the Place of the Governour's general Residence. This City has been so much improved within these late Years, that at present it is very beautiful, large, and very regularly built, and altogether the Astonishment and Admiration of all Strangers that come in-

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to these Parts. The Number of its Inhabitants encreases considerably every Year, which makes the Suburbs of a vast Extent, and the Country round about it is well cultivated, and abounds very much in Rice and Sugar; so that it is to be hoped, that this City will in a few Years make her self very considerable and famous for her prodigious Trade and Riches, besides the Pleasure she has at present to see, that by cultivating her Soil, she has wherewithal to furnish her Inhabitants with all Necessaries of Life; and by that means she may hereafter stand in no Occasion of Rice, which the Company was obliged to supply her from abroad, for her necessary Provisions, which will be the saving of vast Sums for the future.

In this Town is the general Magazine for all Commodities our People bring to the East *Indies*, and here they are sorted and distributed to all Places where they shall be thought necessary, which makes the Road of *Batavia* always full of Merchant Ships, out of which, upon Occasion, may be formed a very powerful Fleet, in Case of any Irruption that should casually happen, either against the City, or any Place about it; so that at all times they are ready to act, both on the Offensive and Defensive.

It is certain, that in *Batavia* there might be a very good Trade, and very advantageous for the Company, were it not continually weakened

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kened, and even interrupted by other Traders, which is visible by the Diminution of the Sale of Linnens and other Goods for some time last past, contrary to the Hopes they entertained of a Change, which would be more advantageous than the last, to the Trade of *Batavia*, on Account of the great Privileges our People had obtained from *Suzan Honnan* on the Eastern Coast of *Java*, in acknowledgment of the Supplies that Prince receiv'd from the Company against his Rebel Subjects, to quell which Rebellion cost much Blood and Treasure; for it is no strange thing, that Subjects so rebellious as they were, should do a great deal of Mischief to the Trade of our People and the Company, because of those great Conveniences of having such a Number of good Ports and Havens all along the Eastern Coast, and by the vast Gain they there made, which induced them to cheat us as much as possibly they could.

Experience has shewn us, that the too great Extent of our Territories, and the too great Number of Maritime Places we have in the *East-Indies*, are ever attended with immense Charges, solid and always certain Expences at all times, whereas the Profits they bring are casual and very uncertain; which makes me believe, that in time the farther we go, the more clearly shall we see that the most compact Possessions are ever the best and most

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profitable; and besides, are more sure to be kept, less envied, and less subject to Revolutions, and give less Trouble and Vexation to those who govern them; particularly if their Neighbours are warlike and perfidious: The Truth of this we have lately seen in the Case of Monsieur *Tack*, Ambassador of the Company, who departed for his Embassy attended with a good Number of Soldiers for that Purpose. No Body doubts but Prince *Homan*, whom I just now mentioned, was guilty of that Violence, which is certainly a Piece of the greatest Perfidiousness, and the most ungrateful Return, from a Prince who ow'd to the Company (under God) his Life and Crown. This Misfortune may always serve as a Lesson to our People for their future Conduct in like Cases. Our Troops which were sent to those Parts to have Satisfaction for that Outrage, and to bring those Infidels to Reason, were still at *Japara*, without being able to do any thing; *Sourapary* their Chief having retired out of the Territories of *Java*, into a Country whither 'twas impossible to follow him without Danger, it being to be feared, we should have a long War on that side, which would be a prodigious Expence, and very prejudicial to the Company and their Trade.

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BANTAN.

The Malecontents who are dissatisfied with the Government of the present King, attempted likewise a bold Enterprize against the Ministers of the Company residing in this Kingdom, having a Design to Massacre them all; but this wicked Project was discovered some small time before it was designed to be put in Execution by a great many of those Villains; so that that Design was not only prevented, but rooted entirely up by the Death of some of those principal Traytors; and the King judged it proper, to prevent the like for the future, to send the old King his Father (who was then Prisoner at *Bantan*, and suspected to be acquainted with this pernicious Design) to *Batavia*, to be secured in the Castle, where he now is, and is like to be as long as he lives, unless some unforeseen Change should happen, to which all Affairs of State, and particularly those of the *East-Indies* are most subject.

Most High and Mighty Lords,

THESE are the principal Things relating to the present Condition of the Affairs of the famous Company in the Indies: *My Zeal to serve those Gentlemen, and my Duty having obliged me to give you this faithful Account, I presume to say, that there are many things*

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